Correspondence 1895
Sarah Orne Jewett and her Circle

by

Sarah Orne Jewett

Edited by Terry Heller

Coe College

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Sarah Orne Jewett Press

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Editorial Practice in Transcriptions

^ ^ : The author has inserted text.
~~abc~~ : The author has deleted text.
[ ] : Editorial comments and descriptions.
{ } : Editorial insertions in pursuit of clarity.

Jewett's periods often appear as dashes, and also often are indistinguishable from commas. Where her intentions seem clear, I have placed commas and periods; when not sure I have given the dashes or included a note.

Like many of her correspondents, Jewett is not consistent in using other punctuation, especially apostrophes. I have presented words needing apostrophes as she and her correspondents present them.

Jewett gradually developed the practice of writing an "a" with a long tail to represent "and." In these transcriptions, I present them as "and" without comment.

As nearly as practical, these transcriptions mirror the appearance of the manuscripts. However, I cannot guarantee they are free of errors. Readers wishing for certainty when working with these letters should consult the manuscripts.

Translations

Several letters in this volume were composed in French. I have included both translations and transcriptions of the French.

With the assistance of Jeannine Hammond, Coe College Professor of French, emerita, I have transcribed and translated these letters using Google Translate. While Professor Hammond's aid was obviously necessary for correcting my crude translations, her sharp eyes and fluency were essential when making out the handwriting of Marie Thérèse de Solms Blanc, especially in cross-written passages.

Mme. Blanc sometimes abbreviates "pour" to "pr" and "vous" to "vs." Such instances in her letters are rendered as "pour" and "vous."

Internet Access to this Text

The Internet Archive, and
the Sarah Orne Jewett Text Project
https://www.sarahornejewett.org/soj/1-jewettpress/index-sojp.html

Late summer 2019, the Anchorage at Martinsville, ME.
Photograph by Nancy Wetzel, South Berwick, ME.
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Sarah Orne Jewett's Principal Correspondents

This list includes people mentioned frequently in this volume. A more fully annotated "Key to Correspondents" appears in a separate volume and on the internet here:

https://www.sarahornejewett.org/soj/let/Corresp/1-persons.html

Most people mentioned in this volume are identified in that list.

Family

Mary Rice Jewett (18 June 1847 - 28 September 1930), Jewett's older sister, often addressed as O.P.

Sarah Orne Jewett. Jewett's nicknames in these letters are Sadie, Pin or Pinny, and P.L, for Pinny Lawson.

Caroline (Carrie) Augusta Jewett (1855-1897), Jewett's widowed younger sister. Her son, **Theodore (Stubby and variations**), is mentioned often.

Friends

Thomas Bailey Aldrich: (1836-1907), author and editor of *Atlantic Monthly*. Jewett also wrote often to his wife, **Lilian Woodman Aldrich** (1841-1927).

Louisa (Loulie) Loring Dresel (1864-1958), painter, photographer, traveler, a neighbor of Annie Fields.

Annie Adams Fields: (1834-1915), social worker, author and Jewett's domestic partner. Jewett often refers to her as A.F. and addresses her with variations on Fuff and Mouse.

William Dean Howells: (1837-1920), novelist, critic, editor at *Atlantic Monthly*, a mentor to Jewett.

Sarah de St. Prix Wyman Whitman: (1842-1904), American artist and designer of several Jewett book covers. She appears often in these letters as she signs her own: S.W.

Marie Thérèse de Solms Blanc to Sarah Orne Jewett

[*January 1895*]*

Dear Sarah, at this moment a snow is falling that reminds me of certain good times in Boston, but without the charming sunshine on the Charles River. I comfort myself, having only a bare garden to look at, by contemplating the portrait of our dear Annie, nicely framed and autographed. I am all alone, without my children, without even dear Gabrielle Delzant*

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who was called away to the South because of her uncle's serious illness. Did you know that Miss Paget* had lost her father? Here we are called to too many funerals. A damp and unwholesome season. My friends, the Daudets,* are in despair over their son's divorce. There are dark days when I wonder whether the marital misunderstandings of my poor Édouard* will end in the same way.

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However, he is now with his wife in the South, though when he left, he showed little enthusiasm. I blame him, but I pity him; he is so superior to her in intelligence, and he feels she judges him from a too narrow point of view. I fret about his health; his liver ailments are not helped by all these worries, and he keeps working anyway.

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You will have read in the Revue of 1 January a very forceful and original article, which is to be followed by a sequel.* Brunetière's* piece on the Vatican draws much attention; Vogüé* offers a sharp response to Lemaître on the influence of Scandinavian literature. This seems to me an excellent issue. Please, pass along to Miss Ticknor* the enclosed scrap. It is cut from a special newspaper for girls, and she will see her ideas are doing good here. A thousand regards to the lovely Mrs. Whitman{.}*

[*Cross written down the left side of page 3*]

I have heard news of Mrs. Gardner through Hamilton Aidé, who sees her here. The Bourgets* are at Cannes.

All my best wishes

ThB

Notes

1895: This date is supported by Blanc mentioning as new the 1 January 1895 issue of *Revue des Deux Mondes* -- see notes below.

Delzant: Alidor (1848-1905) and Gabrielle Delzant (1854-1903) resided in Paris and at Parays (Lot-et-Garonne). He was a lawyer, a bibliophile, editor, and author and wrote, among other works, a biography of the brothers Goncourt.

Richard Cary notes that Gabrielle was cited by Violet Paget for the "admirableness of her brains" and her "extraordinary charm of high breeding." Madame Delzant, an aspiring author, compiled extensive memoranda and rough drafts of books on Port Royal and the Princesse de Liancourt but did not live to publish them. Her husband edited *Lettres de Gabrielle Delzant* (1906), for which Mme. Blanc wrote a preface.

See also "Paget in Parays" (1960) by Archille H. Biron.

Miss Paget: Violet Paget, who published as Vernon Lee. Key to Correspondents.

Daudets: French authors, married to each other, Alphonse Daudet (1840-1897) and Julia Allard Daudet (1844-1940).

Édouard: Mme. Blanc's son. See Blanc in Key to Correspondents.

sequel: Édouard Blanc's "Notes de Voyage en Asie Centrale: Le Turkestan Russe" appeared in the 1 January issue of *Revue des Deux Mondes* (see note below). His "Notes de Voyage en Asie Centrale: à Travers la Transoxiane" appeared in the 15 June 1895 issue.

Brunetière's ... Vogüé ... Lemaître: Blanc refers to the 1 January 1895 issue of *Revue des Deux Mondes*. In that issue, Ferdinand Brunetière (1849-1906), then editor of the *Revue*, published the famous essay that preceded his conversion to Catholicism, "Après une Visite au Vatican," Also in that issue was "La Renaissance Latine: Gabriel D'Annunzio: Poèmes et Romans," by Eugène-Melchior de Vogüé (1848-1910). According to Jeannine Hammond, de Vogüé opens his essay with a satirical critique of an earlier *Revue* article in which Jules Lemaître (1853-1914) bemoans the influences of Germanic and Scandinavian thought and literature upon contemporary French writing. He goes on to argue that authors such as Friedrich Nietzche (1844-1900) and Henrik Ibsen (1828-1906) are invigorating modern European literature and offers the young Italian author, Gabriele D'Annunzio (1863-1938), as an example.

Miss Ticknor: Anna Eliot Ticknor, founder of the Society to Encourage Studies at Home, the first American correspondence school. Key to Correspondents.

Mrs. Gardner ... Hamilton Aidé ...Bourgets: Isabella Stewart Gardner. Key to Correspondents.

French-born British author, Charles Hamilton Aidé (1826-1906).

French novelist and critic, Paul Bourget (1852-1935). In 1890, he married the Belgian-born translator, Julia Louise Amélie (Minnie) David (ca 1868-1932). See also French Wikipedia.

The manuscript of this letter is held by the Huntington Library, San Marino, CA, in the James T. Fields Papers and Addenda mss FI 1-5637, Box 5.

Transcription

Chère Sarah, il tombe en ce
moment une neige qui me
rappelle certaines bonnes journées
de Boston, moins les éclaircies
enchanteresses sur la Charles river.
Je contemple pour me consoler
de n'avoir devant moi qu'un
jardin dépouillé, le portrait
de notre chère Annie que j'ai
fait joliment encadrer
un autographe d'elle au-dessous.
Je suis seule sans mes enfants,
sans même la chère Gabrielle Delzant

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qui a été appelée dans le
midi par une maladie
grave de son oncle. Vous
aurez su que miss Paget avait
perdu son père? On est convié ici
à beaucoup d'enterrements.
Saison humide et malsaine.
Mes amis Daudet sont au
désespoir du divorce de leur
fils. Il y a des jours sombres
où je me demande si les
misintelligences conjugales de mon
pauvre Édouard ne finiront

[*Page 3*]

pas de même. Il est cependant
auprès de sa femme dans le
midi, mais ses sentiments au
départ n'avaient rien de bien
doux. Je le blâme, mais je le
plains; il lui est si supérieur
par l'intelligence et il se sent
perpétuellement jugé à un
point de vue très étroit. Sa
santé n'est pas pour me
rassurer; le foie ne se trouve
pas bien de toutes ces préoccupations
et il travaille quand même. Vous

[*Page 4*]

aurez lu dans la Revue de
1er Janvier un article vraiment
très fort et très nouveau qui
aura une suite prochaine.
Celui de Brunetière sur le Vatican
est très remarqué; Vogüé reprend
vertement Lemaître sur la litterature
scandinave. C'est un excellent
numéro; il me semble. Je vous
prie de remettre le scrap ci joint
à Miss Ticknor. Il est coupé dans
un journal spécial [pr for pour] les jeunes
filles et elleverra que ses idées
font du bien ici. Mille amitiés à la
charmante Mrs Whitman

[*Cross written down the left side of page 3*]

J'ai eu des nouvelles de
Mrs Gardner par Hamilton
Aidé, qui la voit ici.
Les Bourget sont à Cannes.
Tous mes meilleurs voeux

ThB

Robert Collyer to Annie Adams Fields

New York Jan 2^{d} -- 1895

Dear Friend

I wish you A Happy New Year in capitals { -- } may 1895 crown your life with blessing in the peace of God that passeth all understanding.* And want to thank you also for the volume* which is a volume of delight. For the inscriptions also { -- } no other word would have been quite so true. I have been thinking of a day when our James* the beloved went over the treasures with me{,} lauding them for revealing as no other man could and only one woman who has "gone and done it" for good and all. Aunt Martha* is "teary round the lashes"* as her mother was when some sudden joy touches her { -- } so they were a shining when she received the tokens the twain* of you sent her. She is of the blessed ones who don't expect what will come in this sort{,} so the surprise [cubed *?*] the gift and remembrance from you and the story teller who always tells what my Hattie used to call

truly stories we all love to reread* and the happy new year is for both from

Yours always

Robert Collyer

Notes

Understanding: Collyer quotes from the Bible, Philippians 4:7.

Collyer omits many periods in this letter. I have supplied them wherever they seem necessary.

volume: Probably, Fields has given Collyer a copy of her most recent title, *A Shelf of Old Books* (1894).

James: Fields's deceased husband, James T. Fields. Key to Correspondents.

Martha: Collyer's sister. See Collyer in Key to Correspondents.

lashes: Collyer quotes from James Russell Lowell's *Biglow Papers, Second Series* "The Courtin'."

All kin' o' smily round the lips,
An' teary round the lashes.

twain: Collyer means both Fields and Sarah Orne Jewett.

Hattie: Collyer's daughter, Harriet Eastman. See Collyer in Key to Correspondents.

The manuscript of this letter is held by the Huntington Library, San Marino, CA, in the James T. Fields Papers and Addenda Box 10: mss FI 1-5637.

Sarah Orne Jewett to Edmund Clarence Stedman

148 Charles Street
3 January 1895

Dear Mr. Stedman

I have been very ill for several weeks or I should have answered your letter long ago on the part of Messrs. Bacheller.* I should have told you that I would have the story ready on the first of January as you

[*Page 2*]

desired, and then from necessity the promise would have been broken! Now I can only say that I will keep the matter in mind with thanks and best wishes to you and to the house for the New Year. I am [ever *?*]

Yours sincerely
Sarah O. Jewett

[*Page 3*]

[P. S. *?*]

The arrangement was to be made for a story of 8000 words at $50 a thousand.

-- There are one or two things which I must finish first but I think that you may safely count on me this [*unrecognized word*] the first of March. May I hear again from you to know if this will serve you.

Notes

Bacheller: In April 1895, Jewett's "A Dark Night" (about 9600 words) appeared in the *Philadelphia Press* and in other newspapers, distributed by the Bacheller, Johnson & Bacheller syndicate.

This manuscript is held in the Sarah Orne Jewett miscellaneous file. Manuscripts and Archives Division. The New York Public Library. Astor, Lenox, and Tilden Foundations. This transcription is from a photocopy held by the Maine Women Writer's Collection, University of New England, Letters from Sarah Orne Jewett, 1875-1890, the Burton Trafton Jewett Research Collection.

Louise Imogen Guiney to Annie Adams Fields

[*Early January 1895*]*

Dear Mrs. Fields:

I am much more sorry than I can say; for your pain, too. I have thought of little else since your note came. (This S. O. J. 'hath a way' of getting herself loved beshrew her!) As I have to go in town anyhow, I venture to ask for her at the door, and send up this small bit of coolness for no sign at all of how much I am hers, and yours,

L.I.G.

Sat. noon.

Notes

1895: While this undated letter offers minimal clues to aid in dating it, this speculative date seems reasonable. The Huntington Library associates it with Guiney letters from 21 December 1894 and 7 January 1895, presumably because all three concern Sarah Orne Jewett's illness.

The manuscript of this letter is held by the Huntington Library, San Marino, CA, in the James T. Fields collection Box 25: mss FI 1541.

Louise Imogen Guiney to Annie Adams Fields

[*7 January 1895*]

Dear Mrs. Fields:

I am ashamed and 'riled' not to have answered you sooner, and not to have called to inquire for Miss Jewett; you may be sure I wished it! But Satan,* in the shape of Quarterly Accounts, has only just disgorged me. I fear much that this Saturday I shall not get in, to meet my urban night-gown on your hospitable peg ^up^ two flights riverward. But I know now of nothing to head me off from a like pleasure on the 19th, if so be that is to your mind.

Thirty-six letters clamor at me; the minority of which insist

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on categorical replies, &c.; so I hereby depart this agreeable path before me. I slip in an inoffensive something for you to read, which bubbled up from a broken conduit when I heard that my Best Contemporary* was gone, the only man whose books I loved ^quite^ as much as theirs,

-- the dead but sceptred sovereigns who* still rule
Our spirits from their urns.

We are well here, as well as I long to see Miss Jewett. All good to you both, from your

Louise I. Guiney.

Jan. 7th (my birthday!) 1895.

Notes

Miss Jewett: Sarah Orne Jewett.

Satan: In Christianity, Satan is a demon who personifies evil and rebellion against God.

Best Contemporary: The Scottish author, Robert Louis Stevenson, died on 3 December 1894. Therefore, it seems likely that Guiney has included with this letter, a draft of her tribute to him, entitled "Amends." See below.

who: Guiney quotes from British poet, George Gordon, Lord Byron (1788-1824), *Manfred* (Act III, Scene 4).
A pair of vertical lines appears after "who."

The manuscript of this letter is held by the Huntington Library, San Marino, CA, in the James T. Fields collection Box 25: mss FI 1606. In the same location, item 1544 almost certainly is the "inoffensive something" that Guiney included in this letter, here entitled "Amends." A revision of the sonnet was published as "Valediction (R. L. S., 1894)."

Amends.

When from the vista of the Book I shrink,
From lauded pens that earn ignoble wage,
Begetting nothing joyous, nothing sage,
Nor keep with Shakespeare's use one golden link;
Or when reluctantly my spirits sink,
To read too plain in each impostor page
Only of kings the broken lineage; --
Well for my heart if then on thee I think.
Louis, our Knight of Letters, the sole knight
With whose white shield the arm of Hope is girt,
And from whose brows his own assume the bay,
All glad, all great! Truer because thou wert,
I am and must be: and in thy known light
I go to dust, content with my day.

---

^Writ^ In the month of King Rudyard's accession* --

Here is Guiney's revised publication from *"England and Yesterday*" (1898):

Valediction (R. L. S., 1894)

When from the vista of the Book I shrink,
From lauded pens that earn ignoble wage,
Begetting nothing joyous, nothing sage,
Nor keep with Shakespeare's use one golden link;
When heavily my sanguine spirits sink,
To read too plain on each impostor page
Only of kings the broken lineage,
Well for my peace if then on thee I think,
Louis: our priest of letters, and our knight
With whose familiar baldric hope is girt,
From whose young hands she bears the Grail away.
All glad, all great! Truer because thou wert,
I am and must be; and in thy known light
Go down to dust, content with this my day.

King Rudyard's accession: When she refers to "King Rudyard's accession, Guiney probably was indicating that, with the death of Stevenson, British author, Rudyard Kipling (1865-1936) has ascended to be her new "best contemporary." At this date, Kipling was residing in Vermont.

The manuscript of this letter is held by the Huntington Library, San Marino, CA, in the James T. Fields collection Box 25: mss FI 1541.

Sarah Orne Jewett to Mary Rice Jewett and Carrie Jewett Eastman

[Boston 10 January 1895 *in another hand*]
Wednesday Night

Dear Sisters

It has been a pleasant and quiet day with much reading of [pritty *so spelled*] books and one or two ladies stepping in besides A.F. on her way to the Charity Building* with a party tonight of Miss Anne Lever?* to play whist, also Dodds:* Sister taking the first rubber, but not being so excited as some with the pleasures of the game. Mary, you hurts your sister's poor feelings and

[*Page 2*]

she hasn't been in her usual health which makes it seem more unkind. She has never been asked to Worcester even by way of compliment except to say in a general way "When are you coming!" -- others are preferred before she and every plan set forth. And she has got more pride than to push herself and feels it more because Mis' Merriman* used to be different ..... Sister Carrie wouldn't have passed such

[*Page 3*]

remarks to her even though she hasn't been a Sister near so long -- but I dare say you didn't mean it !!!! The poor little Duchess's* letter seemed quite cheerful to me with but little attention paid to stops. I wonder if Lizzie* will come up but I dont suppose so before spring.

I seem to have so little to tell though my visit is so serene and pleasant. Mrs. Cabot* is as kind as can be, and quite touching{.} She

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is so pleased to think I am here. There are ever so many nice things to read and every comfort as you may suppose and I dont [feel *may be underlined*] so fretted as I did about [things *may be underlined*] that are undone. I begin to feel now as if I had been pretty sick, but I always have to wait until I am getting better to have much sense of it. I have been working on my letters slowly, but I can't seem to get at Thérèse's paper* yet. I was so glad to get

[*Page 5*]

both your letters today. I sent a note to Hetta Ward* last evening but I haven't got any answer yet. Maud Scott* the little secretary boards at the Bellevue and she took it for me, but she hasn't been here today.

Thursday

Such a morning! I suppose we must be going to have a [storm *?*] before it is nice weather again. Mary, do you happen to remember where my little black jacket that Becca* made me was put away? We couldn't find

[*Page 6*]

it when I moved, but one was lent me with smiles of pleasure to come with -- --

There are those that are having two old women make black lace for petticoats like that of Minnies.* So if either of you are in need you can bear it in mind.

With ever so much love Sarah.

The Marlborough pie* was so beseemed! Dont you remember I brought one?

[10 JAN 1895 2 of 2 *in another hand*]

Notes

10 January 1895: 10 January fell on a Thursday in 1895.

Charity Building: Annie Adams Fields worked with the Associated Charities of Boston, located in the Charity Building on Chardon St., Boston.

Miss Anne Sever: Whether Jewett wrote Sever or Lever is difficult to determine. It appears there was an Anne Lever, an artist believed to have been working in the 1880s in Boston. However, no further information about her has been found.

It seems more likely that Jewett refers to Anne Dana Sever (1828-1896) a long-time resident of the Back Bay in Boston. The daughter of John and Anna Dana Sever, she lived with her sister, Emily at 376 Marlborough St.

Dodds: The Dodds have not been identified. It would be interesting if this were Walter James Dodd (1869-1916) and his wife Margaret Lea (d. 1951), who were residents of Boston and at one time resided in the Back Bay area. Though he eventually completed a medical degree, in 1894, he was an apothecary at Massachusetts General Hospital, where he pioneered the use of x-rays. While the Dodds cannot be this couple, because they did not marry until 1910, little has yet been discovered about whether Dodd lived with other relatives and socialized in the Back Bay area before his marriage.

It is possible that Jewett refers to the family of William Goodell Dodd, a Boston banker who died in 1872. His wife was Eliza Fay Dodd, and they had at least one child, Harriet Isabella. However,

no evidence has been found that Mrs. Dodd was living in the 1890s or resided with other family members, though she did live in the Back Bay Area.

Little Duchess: Probably Jewett refers to Lilian Aldrich, her affectionate nickname being the Duchess of Ponkapog. Key to Correspondents.

Lizzie: Typically, when Jewett refers to Lizzie, she means a frequent Jewett employee in South Berwick, Lizzie Pray, or Elizabeth Jervis Gilman. However this reference may be someone else. Key to Correspondents.

Thérèse's paper: Jewett aided Marie Thérèse de Solms Blanc in translating and placing in American magazines several of Blanc's essays. Assuming that the date of this letter is correct, Jewett most likely was working on "About French Children" or "Family Life in America," both of which appeared in 1896.

Hetta Ward: Sister of William and Susan Ward. Key to Correspondents.

Maud Scott: The Hotel Bellevue in Boston was a residential hotel. Miss Maud Scott is listed as a resident there in *Clark's Boston Blue Book* (1895), p. 84. It seems clear that she was available for typing manuscripts and sometimes provided this service to Jewett. No more about her has been discovered.

Becca: Rebecca Young. Key to Correspondents.

Minnies: This may refer to Minnie Lord Weeks Goodwin. See Sophia Elizabeth Hayes Goodwin in Key to Correspondents.

Marlborough pie: The transcription is uncertain, but Jewett may refer to Marlborough pie, a variety of dessert pie made with a mixture of sweet and tart apples, according to New England Food Today.

The manuscript of this letter is held by Historic New England in Jewett Family Papers: MS014.02.01.

Sarah Orne Jewett to Mary Rice Jewett and Carrie Jewett Eastman

[Boston 12 January 1895 *in another hand*]*

[*Begin Letterhead*]
34 Beacon Street.*
[*End Letterhead*]

Dear Mary & Carrie

Your two nice letters were such a pleasure this afternoon and I laughed as much as Carrie expected over the story: it somehow was terrible pleasing! I have passed a quiet day as you may suppose but a drive is being arranged to take place tomorrow, and I daresay it will be pleasant to go out again as Tuesday was the last available day. I do seem to have so little to tell and so my letter may be as long and sleepy and stupid as

[*Page 2*]

the one I wrote last night! I send you one or two things that have come. The Reverend Mr. Twombly's* letter is very parsonish it strikes me, and I am afraid he isn't the right man to give any distinction and flavor to a little book about Dr. Lord.* I have written him that I will send him a copy of the Berwick paper in the N. E. Magazine* -- where I said what I could of Dr. Lord's time and of his family in the best way I could. Dr. Lord's last letter is on my desk somewhere in the heap at the right hand but he wont come to those later things

[*Page 3*]

yet awhile. -- What I do feel in a hurry about is finding some of Sandpiper's letters:* there must be a good many in the drawers of my desk where I have put what letters I cared ^most^ about keeping.

I had such a beautiful present that morning, a box of lace that belonged to dear Miss Howes that [Mrs *corrected*] Cabot sent up. You will both love to see them ^such lovely things!^ and a box of crape and lace shawls for A.F. which I long to see her open!

You ask about my coming home Mary, but I think it would be safer

[*Page 4*]

to ask Fanny Linton* and to count on my going back when you do. I should think by that time I might be in a reasonable state of repair!* but I can't manage even yet to sit up all day though I am so much better particularly in the evening. I dont get up until ^near^ noon and lie down a good deal then by way of getting along! I suppose it is

partly from being shut up so long. I have got a new pen which seems to assist in recovery!! That other old long [pin *?*] pen was so distressing and I never could seem to get round to changing it.

[*Up the left margin and in the top margin of page 1*]

I have my troubles you see as well as Sister Carrie with her ink! Good night with ever so much love to both of you and Stubby
from Sarah

Notes

1895: The rationale for this date is not known, but it coincides well with Jewett's bout of bronchitis which began in December 1894 and was long in clearing up, and with other dates referenced in the letter, the publication of "The Old Town of Berwick" and the death of Professor John Lord.

34 Beacon Street: The address of the Boston home of Susan Burley Cabot. Key to Correspondents. In this letter, Jewett refers to a box of lace that had belonged to Cabot's sister, Elizabeth Howes (1827-1893).

Reverend Mr. Twombly: Alexander Stevenson Twombly (1832-1907) was the author of *The Life of John Lord* (1896).

Dr. Lord: Professor John Lord. Key to Correspondents.

N. E. Magazine: Jewett's "The Old Town of Berwick" appeared in *The New England Magazine* in July 1894.

*Sandpiper's letter*s: Celia Thaxter. Key to Correspondents. Thaxter had died on 25 August 1894. Annie Fields and Rose Lamb were gathering Thaxter letters for possible inclusion in their book, *Letters of Celia Thaxter* (1897).

Fanny Linton: This person is has not been identified. A possibility is the Fanny Linton who operated a millinery business in South Berwick, ME in 1877. Whether she remained in business as late as 1895 is not known. Nor is it known whether she is the same as Frances Jane Linton (1838-1902) of nearby Dover, NH., daughter of Lucina (1802-1885), sister of Anna Linton Waldron (1835-1901) and Mary A. Linton (1840-1902).

state of repair: In December of 1894, while in Boston, Jewett had suffered so serious a case of bronchitis as to require hiring a nurse to care for her.

The manuscript of this letter is held by Historic New England in the Jewett Family Papers MS014.02.01.

Mary Elizabeth Garrett to Sarah Orne Jewett

[*Letterhead of initials MEG superimposed*]

Baltimore, Jan. 12, 1895

Dear Sarah

I have been entrusted with the enclosed letter from the Bryn Mawr School girls, to forward to you. I wish you could realize how much pleasure they have taken in "their" story,* for I am sure it would be a genuine satisfaction to you.

I feel very remiss in not having written you all about the getting out of the book before this, but as you know, Christmas times are even busier than ordinary ones, and more than notes I can seldom succeed in accomplishing with my own hand; so that I have been waiting for a chance to dictate.

I was much disappointed in not getting the letter that I intended off to you that Sunday in New York, but I know that I can give you no news as to the amount of time that getting a book printed takes. I had of course a general idea of it, but I confess to being surprised at finding how many hours each day were consumed, first by vain attempts to get Mr Devinne* to take charge of it (this effort involving no less than three visits, as he was ill and inaccessible), and then in making arrangements with the elder Mr Dodd,* and in following up all the practical details. They at first promised that the proof-sheets should be sent to you, but after several printers in turn had declined to do the job in time if this had to be done, I had to telegraph you, asking your consent to let me read the proof. Mr Dodd's son was put in charge of

[*Page 2*]

the job, and his visits were early and late, with sample pages, sample title-pages, the proofs themselves, samples of the binding, of the lettering of the cover, the placing of the seal, the outside cover &c. &c.; and my visits to the book-store in connection with these various points were daily. The "Xmas" that you do not quite like I was responsible for, not the printers, as I have always liked this way of writing it, because it gives so plainly the origin of the word. I should even like to go farther and make it Exmass. The "Exmas" they are most distinctly responsible for, and not I, as I most carefully corrected the blunder on the proofs, and called Mr Dodd's attention to the correction particularly; and I was very much tried when the

book arrived with the correction not made. To show you how little time there really was, we did not dare to trust to having the books expressed, lest they should not be in time, and I sent Mr Prévost* on to New York to bring them back with him in a trunk. We had only one hundred and fifty copies printed, so that it might seem to be what we really meant it to be, the exclusive possession of the School. Each pupil was of course to have one, each teacher, and each of the Board of Managers, each of the graduates of the school, and each of the very few former pupils, who are not graduates because of some good reason, and who were asked to the party. The Government, as you know of course, has its two copies, and as soon as I am sure that all the children have theirs I shall be able to send you a few copies; just how many I cannot yet tell, as all of the names have not yet been handed in.

I do hope that the Bryn Mawr School girls may have the pleasure of seeing you here some time this year. Perhaps when the east winds come you may feel like coming further south than Boston.

[*Page 3*]

[*Letterhead of initials MEG superimposed*]

I have been so sorry to hear of your illness. I had hoped very strongly that you were going to have a much better winter this year.

You were very good to think of me when you were suffering so much, and to send me the book,* which I shall value extremely. It has in it some of the things of yours that I have enjoyed and like the most, and it is a great pleasure to have a copy from you yourself.

Mrs Fields's book* is certainly most charmingly got up, even though she did not accomplish the cover that was discussed in the Adirondacks. Please tell her, with my love, that I hope to write her within a day or two, and tell her how much she gratified me by my Xmas gift, and that I am so sorry that I have had to delay telling her for so long.

With love for you both, and hoping soon to hear really good accounts of you,

Believe me

Affectionately yours
[*Signed* Mary E. Garrett]

Here is a clipping which has been waiting in my portfolio for you for a long time.

[*Handwritten PS*]

I will add a line, not dictated, to remind you that you must not forget the business side of our dear little book -- but must let me know how much I owe you -- The money part of the obligation I can repay, but I shall ^still^ remain very heavily in your debt -- and shall not feel the debt a burden --

Notes

"their" story: *Betty Leicester's English Xmas: A New Chapter of an Old Story.* This sequel to *Betty Leicester* (1890) was privately printed by the Bryn Mawr School in 1894. Weber and Weber in their 1949 bibliography note that the printer was Dodd, Mead & Co. of New York, for "Exmas" 1894.

Mr Devinne: Probably Theodore Low De Vinne (1828-1914), American printer and scholar of typography.

Mr Dodd: According to Wikipedia, Moses Woodruff Dodd (1813-1899) was a founder of what became Dodd, Mead & Co. His son Frank Howard Dodd (1844-1916) took over the company in 1870. Frank Dodd's son, Edward Howard Dodd (1869-1920) also joined the company upon graduating from Yale University. Garrett's dealings presumably were with Frank and Edward Dodd.

Mr Prévost: This person has not yet been identified.

the book: Jewett's most recent book in 1895 was *A Native of Winby and Other Tales* (1893).

Mrs Fields's book: Probably *A Shelf of Old Books* (1894).

The typescript of this letter is held by the Houghton Library of Harvard University: Sarah Orne Jewett Correspondence I, Letters to Sarah Orne Jewett. Garrett, Mary E. 2 letters; 1895-1897 (75). This letter is typed in Italic script. Associated with it is a similarly typed envelope addressed to Jewett in care of Mrs. James T. Fields in Boston, cancelled on 12 January 1895. This transcription is from a photocopy held by the Maine Women Writer's Collection, University of New England, Letters from Sarah Orne Jewett, 1875-1890, Box 2, Folder 99, Burton Trafton Jewett Research Collection.

Ellen Tucker Emerson to Annie Adams Fields

Concord, 14 Jan. 1895

Dear Mrs Fields,

Your kind letter has just reached me in this morning's mail. I am sorry to refuse so pleasant an invitation, but I have just come home after a long

absence and must not

[*Page 2*]

run gaily away again, leaving the work of this week which looks to me more than I can manage.

Thank Miss Jewett for her kind greeting. I hope she is better. Thankyou for thinking of me and asking me. If I had been in Milton I should have come

[*Page 3*]

most gladly; and thankyou for the reports. I will read them.

Yours truly
Ellen T. Emerson.

Notes

The manuscript of this letter is held by the Huntington Library, San Marino, CA, in the James T. Fields Papers and Addenda, Box 16: mss FI 5637.

Sarah Orne Jewett to Mary Rice Jewett

Friday morning
[*Winter 1895*]

Dear Mary

I waked up feeling better than I have at all, but I have had to give up the idea of getting home today or tomorrow the weather is so bad even if I felt strong enough to start. I am sorry for I had quite set my heart on coming. Perhaps it is better to feel that there is no chance just now, than to be wondering whether I ought or ought not. I felt the storm "somewhat" as Cousin Alice* would say, by pains before it came and such a funny stiffness yesterday so that I stepped like our often quoted hens with their beak feathers but wasn't lame at all. In all the storm Katharine Loring* appeared again and we had a nice time. There were those who had a busy morning and at half past three they got a cab and when out, as the storm had abated. There was a mysterious air about the enterprise and when she returned late she had been to play with Mary Dorr,* one of the most happy occasions on record, and Mary Dorr sent the same splendid carnations and thought the War Debt* was a [beautifly *so transcribed*] story, and there were such tales, and in short a great play and fine sense of satisfaction. I wish you had been here! Mrs. Dorr did not get back from the Country until some time this month. I had the dearest letter from Auntie which I send to you, it pleased me so much. [Here come *so transcribed*] the morning mail with something to look over for Therese a little paper about Madame Feuillet* which I shall see about as fast as I can with help from A.F. Did Sister Carrie* feel she could get to the fire? Hearing about the baby being most smothered makes me feel as if she must have been on the spot, even though in poor health!! You mustn't run risks dear Sister Carrie. I am writing in bed and begin to feel as if it were time to get up so I must say bood-be* with much love to all from

Sarah

Notes

Winter 1895: A handwritten note on this transcription reads: 189-. This date is based upon Jewett indicating that her January 1895 story, "A War Debt" has recently appeared, while Blanc's July 1895 paper on Madame Feuillet has not yet found a publisher.

*Cousin Alic*e: Alice Dunlap Gilman. Key to Correspondents.

Katharine Loring: Key to Correspondents.

Mary Dorr: Mary Gray Ward Dorr (1820 - 21 October 1901), wife of Charles Hazen Door (1821-1893). They had residences in Boston and in Bar Harbor Maine.

the War Debt: Jewett's story, "A War Debt," first appeared in *Harper's Magazine* (January 1895).

Madame Feuillet: Under the name of Th. Bentzon, Marie Thérèse de Solms Blanc published her essay, "The Romantic Life of Madame Feuillet," in *Ladies' Home Journal* (July 1895).

Sister Carrie: Carrie Jewett Eastman.

bood-be: So transcribed. Presumably baby-talk for "good bye," connected with the reference to Carrie and the almost smothered baby?

This text is from transcriptions from mixed repositories in the Maine Women Writer's Collection, University of New England, Letters from Sarah Orne Jewett, 1875-1890, Folder 73, Burton Trafton Jewett Research Collection.

Helen Cross Knight to Caroline Augusta Eastman

Jan 14 -- 1895

Carrie, my love, how sweet that you thought it worth while to send me one of Sarah's lovely books, always welcome.

I long for one that shall contain the "Red

Rose",* that charming, charming story. What a gift Sarah has, far superior to any

[*Page 2*]

of the Wilkinses* -- yes, indeed.

[Ginny's *?*]* visit to the [*unrecognized word* camp *?*] did her a world of good. There is nothing like broadening one's horizon now and then. She gives her [*unrecognized word* papers *?*] to the [church *?*] this week and a good [*unrecognized word*], I guess. "The Puritan Sunday --"*

Did you not enjoy [yr *so spelled*] cousin Fanny's* visit with

[*Page 3*]

her little boy? Mary Hartwell* thinks he is a very bright and interesting child. [On *corrected*] our [*unrecognized word* human *?*] side, it seemed such a pity his baby brother died -- play-fellows and companions thro' happy, teeming childhood.* It is a great solace to believe that God knows best -- and that [He *?*] is ^as^ good and gracious in

[*Page 4*]

withdrawing and withholding as in giving --

Charlotte's* health is very good this winter -- you would think so by her rigorous use of broom and duster. She hates winter, but that can't be helped. Give us a day, dear Carrie -- you & [Louise *?*]* were here last winter -- we always enjoyed so, your dear little visits -- [Marie *?*]* dines with us to day -- Love [frm *so spelled*] H. C. Knight --

Notes

"Red Rose": Sarah Orne Jewett is not known to have published a story entitled "Red Rose." It seems likely Knight is remembering Jewett's January1894 *Atlantic Monthly* story, "The Only Rose," in which a red rose makes a featured appearance. "The Only Rose" was collected in Jewett's *The Life of Nancy* (1895), a volume not yet available in January 1895. Which book Eastman gave to Knight is not known. Jewett's most recent books were *A Native of Winby* (1893) and *Betty Leicester's English Xmas* (1894). The latter would have made an appropriate Christmas present and, as it was privately printed, would have been somewhat difficult to obtain.

Wilkinses: Knight refers to American author Mary E. Wilkins Freeman (1852-1930), but it is not clear why she makes this plural. Does she refer to other authors named Wilkins or does she compare "The Only Rose" to Wilkins's published short stories?

Ginny's: This transcription is uncertain, and this person has not yet been identified.

"The Puritan Sunday": Puritan Sabbatarianism is the practice of keeping "the Puritan Sunday," devoting the first day of the week to worship and devotional activity and avoiding all recreational activities and remunerative labor.

Fanny's: Frances Perry Dudley. See Lucretia M. Perry in Key to Correspondents. Dudley's sons were William and Gardner. The latter lived just 7 months.

Mary Hartwell: This person has not yet been identified. At least two persons named Mary Hartwell are associated with Knight's Portsmouth, NH, around this time: Mary Ellen (Geary) Hartwell (b. 1866), but her name was Geary in 1895; Mary Ann Hartwell died in 1894.

teeming childhood: While this phrase has the sound of a quotation, no source is yet known.

Charlotte's: Knight's sister, Charlotte Tilton Cross. See Knight in Key to Correspondents.

Louise: This transcription is uncertain, and this person has not yet been identified.

Marie: This transcription is uncertain, and this person has not yet been identified.

This manuscript is held by the Houghton Library of Harvard University, Boston, MA: MS Am 1743 Box 8: 414.

Henry Codman Potter to Sarah Orne Jewett

Newport R. I.
Friday Evening,
January 18th 1895

My dear Miss Jewett.

This is my summer home, and I sometimes come here in winter, -- snatching a day out of my over-crowded life in town, -- for the healing force of this dear old town. Such a day I am just ending, -- and have been reading your "War Debt"* in the January "Harper." What a lovely, lovely,

[*Page 2*]

bit of work it is -- a very poem in prose, with touch so kind and sensitive, and every line so sweet, and tender and true! You must let me thank you for it. I spent three years, as a student, in Virginia, and you have caught its atmosphere as if you had been steeped in it. I want to congratulate

[*Page 3*]

you, if I may, [for *?*] a piece of literary work so altogether charming, and I am more than ever

Your grateful debtor

Henry C. Potter
Bishop of New York
Miss Sarah Orne Jewett

P.S. I append my [titular-designation *?*] simply for purposes of iden-

[*Page 4*]

tification. You might otherwise [think I was some "Mr Potter of Texas" *?*]*

H.C.P.

Notes

War Debt: Jewett's "A War Debt" appeared in *Harper's Monthly* in January 1895.

Texas: While this transcription is uncertain, it may not be coincidental that there is a novel entitled *Mr. Potter of Texas* (1888) by Archibald Clavering Gunter. Wikipedia.

Associated with this letter is an envelope cancelled in Newport, RI, on January 1895, perhaps the 20th, and in New York City on 21 January 1895. Front, upper left is So. Berwick, Maine. Bottom left, down diagonally, with lines above and below: Messrs Harper & Brothers will please forward. H. C. Potter. It is addressed to Miss Sarah Orne Jewett, C/O Messrs Harper & Brothers, Cliff Street, New York City. Cancellations on the back are not readable, except for a partial date, probably 1-30-95.

The manuscript of this letter is held by the Miller Library, Special Collections, Colby College, Waterville, ME: JEWE.1.

John Howard Wills* to Sarah Orne Jewett

Ala. Polytechnic Institute
Auburn, Ala. Jan 20, 1895

[Miss *corrected*] Sarah Orne Jewett,
Care of Harper & Brothers,
New York.

Dear Madam,

Permit me as a native born Virginian and in behalf of a little colony of Virginians thrown together by the whirligig of time in this almost deserted village to thank you for your story -- A War Debt -- in the January Harper's. I do not know when I have been more pleased and touched than I was by this just and deserved tribute to the old time Southern lady and gentleman. That this compliment is from a Northern source adds to its charm and renders it more graceful and pleasing. I can not but hope that you will shortly allow the agreeable hero to meet the lady who was "the queen of her little company" and that we may be permitted to be present.

Very sincerely,
John Howard Wills
Lieutenant U.S. Army.

Notes

Wills: Almost certainly this is Lt. John Howard Wills (1857-1896). Find a Grave. He graduated from the Alabama Polytechnic Institute (Auburn) in 1881. His son, Major John Howard Wills, received the Medal of Honor after his death in battle in 1918. See "John Howard Wills" at For What They Gave.com.

Jewett's "A War Debt" appeared in 1895 and was collected in *The Life of Nancy.*

The ms. of this letter is held by the Houghton Library of Harvard University: bMS Am 1743 (239).

Marie Thérèse de Solms Blanc to Annie Adams Fields.

[*22 January 1895*]*

Dear Annie,

I had inadvertently taken away a book that our consul in Boston, Mr. Camille Jordan,* is willing to take care of delivering to you. You must have missed this precious book because it deals with what interests you the most in the world;

[*Page 2*]

excuse my carelessness. I know you will be charmed to meet Mr. and Mrs. C. Jordan, who, for their part, will meet at your house the most distinguished people in Boston. Give them, as you did for me, the key to your magic circle, tell them,

[*Page 3*]

Mrs. Ward Howe,* Mrs. Whitman and the others, that I count on them to welcome this young couple; they represents the best of us here. Mr. Jordan is the son of a member of the Institute, known to you, for whom nothing French is strange, at least by name.

[*Page 4*]

Mrs. Jordan is the daughter of General Marquis d'Ussel; they are distant cousins of the Comtesse de Rambuteau,* of whom I spoke to you, author of

a delicious life of a 14th-century Tuscan saint, written two years ago.

This letter is also for Sarah, who, I hope, is recovered and returned to her work. I would like, without too much delay, to do a translation of her A Native of Winby, one of the most touching and

[*Page 5*]

profound stories she has given us. Between you, try to see that Mr. and Mrs. Jordan become acquainted with Cambridge.* I am very sorry that Mrs. Agassiz* is no longer there, but suppose she will return in spring; she has not yet written to me from Rome, which I hope does not mean that her daughter's health continues to worry her.

[*Page 6*]

Did I tell you of the almost miraculous sudden recovery of Vernon Lee's brother and of Miss Dunham's enthusiasm over the work of Countess Pasolini,* which is no less than an Italian renaissance? Inspired by Desjardins,* (tell it to Mrs. Fairchild)* the countess is to establish a society for the revival

[*Page 7*]

of civic duty, a center for information and dedication to public affairs. The society will publish a journal, *The Present Hour*, all inspired by Desjardins! which will call souls to the highest patriotic sentiments, etc. The purpose of the journal is to foster ambition for intellectual culture

[*Page 8*]

and, especially, to lead women to feel the need for useful activity. You can see how the American example bears fruit in the old world and that dear Etta must swim to [*unrecognized word*] always like a fish in the water.

I embrace you with all my heart, and I treasure Boston with most grateful memories.

Th Blanc

Paris, 22 January

[*Up the left margin of Page 8*]

Just now comes *The Atlantic*,* with both your names listed in the contents. I am going to read. Thanks.

Notes

1895: This date seems very likely to be correct, but there are perhaps minor complications. Blanc writes of the Countess Pasolini's plans for a journal as if they are to be realized in the future, but the first issue appeared in January of 1895. Further, Blanc reports just receiving the current *Atlantic Monthly*, containing pieces by both Jewett and Fields. While it seems unlikely that she would receive the February issue in Paris by 22 January, it is true that both Jewett and Fields had pieces in that issue, but not in the January number.

Camille Jordan: French diplomat, Camille Jordan (1865-1929) and his wife, Marie-Caroline d'Ussel (1868-1955). Wikipedia says that he was the son of the French mathematician, Camille Jordan (1838-1922), member of "l'Académie des sciences." She was the daughter of the marquis Armand d'Ussel (1828-1898), "général de brigade de cavalerie." They married on 4 June 1894.

Mrs. Ward Howe: Julia Ward Howe. Key to Correspondents.

Comtesse de Rambuteau: Identifying this person is difficult. She clearly was the author of a number of books, including *Le Bienheureux Colombini: histoire d'un Toscan au XIV siécle.* (1893) by "The Countess of Rambuteau." Presumably she was the wife of the then current Count de Rambuteau, Philibert Lombard de Buffières de Rambuteau (1838-1912), Mathilde Gautier (1848-1911).

The "blessed Colombini" was the Sienese Italian merchant, Giovanni Colombini (c. 1300-1367), who, according to Wikipedia, founded the Congregation of Jesuati, (not the Jesuits).

Sarah: Jewett's collection of stories, *A Native of Winby*, appeared in 1893. Blanc's translation of the short story, "A Native of Winby," appeared in *Revue pour les Jeunes Filles* (l . 203-224), Paris, September 20, 1895: "Natif de Winby."

Cambridge: Presumably, Blanc refers to Harvard University and Radcliffe College, in Cambridge, MA.

Mrs. Agassiz: Key to Correspondents. Elizabeth Cabot Cary Agassiz was among the founders of Radcliffe College. She was the widow of Harvard naturalist, Louis Agassiz (1807-1873).

Vernon Lee's brother: Vernon Lee / Violet Paget. Key to Correspondents. Her half-brother was English poet Eugene Lee-Hamilton (1845-1907).

Miss Dunham: Probably, this is Etta Dunham, the daughter of James Dunham of New York, one of four sisters. American painter, John Singer Sargent made a portrait of her in 1895.

Countess Pasolini: Italian educator and historian, Maria Pasolini Ponti (1856-1938). The first issue of L'*Ora Presente,* apparently was in January 1895.

The journal was published by the "Unione per il bene." See Wikipedia.

Desjardins: Paul Desjardins (1859-1940), French teacher and journalist. See French Wikipedia.

Mrs. Fairchild: Elizabeth Nelson Fairchild (1845-1924). See Sally Fairchild in Key to Correspondents.

Atlantic: Blanc would have found Jewett's "The Life of Nancy" in the *Atlantic* contents for February 1895, in the same issue as Fields's biographical essay, "Celia Thaxter."

The manuscript of this letter is held by the Huntington Library, San Marino, CA, in the James T. Fields Papers and Addenda mss FI 1-5637, Box 5.

Transcription

Chère Annie,
J'avais emporté par
inadvertance un livre
que notre consul
à Boston, Monsieur
Camille Jordan, veut
bien se charger de
vous remettre. Il a
dû vous manquer,
ce livre précieux car
il traite de ce qui
vous intéresse le plus au

[*Page 2*]

monde; excusez
mon étourderie.
Je sais que vous
serez charmée de
connaître M. et Mme
C. Jordan qui, de
leur côté, rencontreront
dans votre maison
ce que Boston peut
offrir de plus distingués{.}
Donnez-leur, comme
vous l'avez fait pour
moi, la clef du magic
circle, dites à celles qui

[*Page 3*]

en font partie, Mrs
Ward Howe, M^rs^ Whitman
et les autres, que
je compte sur elles
pour accueillir ce
jeune ménage; il
représente aussi ce qu'il y
a chez nous de meilleur.
M. Jordan est le fils
du membre de L'institut
que vous connaissez
au moins de nom,
vous à qui rien de français
n'est étranger.

[*Page 4*]

Mme Jordan est la
fille du général Marquis
d'Ussel; ils sont petits-
cousins de la comtesse
de Rambuteau dont
je vous ai parlé à
propos d'une délicieuse
vie de saint Toscan, au
14^e^ siècle qu'elle a écrite
il y a deux ans.
Cette lettre est aussi
pour Sarah qui, j'espère
est rétablie et rendue
à ses travaux. Je voudrais
bien faire paraître sans
trop de retard une traduction
de son Native of Winby
l'une des choses les plus touchantes et

[*Page 5*]

les plus profoundes
qu'elle nous ait jamais [données *?*].
Tâchez, ^vous et elle^ que M. et Mme
Jordan fassent
ample connaissance
avec Cambridge.
Mon regret est bien
vif que M^rs^ Agassiz
n'y soit plus, mais
je suppose qu'elle
reviendra au printemps;
elle ne m'a pas
encore écrit de Rome
ce qui ne veut pas
dire, j'espère, que la
santé de sa fille lui inspire
plus de souci ----

[*Page 6*]

Vous ai-je parlé de
la guérison soudaine
presque miraculeuse du
frère de Vernon Lee
et de l'enthousiasme
de Miss Dunham
pour l'oeuvre de
la Comtesse Pasolini

qui n'est rien moins
qu'une renaissance
italienne? Inspirée
par Desjardins, ^(dites-le à Mrs Fairchild)^ la
comtesse fonde une société pour le réveil

[*Page 7*]

du devoir civique,
une espèce de foyer
de renseignement
et de dévouement
à la chose publique.
La société aura son
journal: "L'Ora
présente," toujours
inspiré par Desjardins!
qui appellera ^les âmes^ aux
sentiments les plus
élevés du patriotisme
etc. Le but du journal
est de répandre l'ambition
de la culture intellectuelle

[*Page* 8]

et spécialement
de faire sentir aux
femmes le besoin
d'une activité utile.
Vous voyez que l'exemple
de l'Amérique porte
des fruits dans
le vieux monde et que
la chère Etta doit nager à [*unrecognized word*]
tout cela comme le poisson dans l'eau.
Je vous embrasse
de tout mon
coeur et je
value Boston
avec un bien
reconnaissant souvenir

Th Blanc

Paris, 22 Janvier

[*Up the left margin of Page 8*]

A l'instant m'arrive l'Atlantic avec
vos deux noms inscrits au [souveraine / sommaire *?*]
Je vais lire. Merci.

Sarah Orne Jewett to Sarah Chandler Perry

25 Janʸ 1895

[*Begin letterhead*]
South Berwick, Maine
[*End letterhead*]

Dear Aunt Sarah

I should be ashamed to write my thanks for your kindness so long after Christmas, if you did not know that I had a pretty good reason for silence. My croaking voice recovered some time~~s~~ ago but something has seemed to be the matter

[*Page 2*]

when I tried to use a pen! I have had to neglect a great many letters before Christmas as well as after.

But I liked your pretty Whittier spoon* very much and I shall keep it in my possession as long as I can and not let it seem to lose identity among the family stores of tea spoons. Mary and I happened to come upon some of Mr. Whittier's

[*Page 3*]

letters yesterday and one of them was written upon a sheet of paper with a picture of the birthplace at top -- It is wonderful how much the silversmith contrived to get on the little space of the spoon.

I came home on Monday with Mrs. Fields for company, and Mary got home next day from Worcester where she has had a delightful visit. We so seldom have a winter visit from Mrs. Fields that we

[*Page 4*]

are enjoying it very much but I am sorry to say she must go away today.

I have got well very slowly and walked about the yard after I got home for the first time since the first week in December that I could go out afoot -- It has been a tiresome siege, but now I really begin to think about my dusty stories again.

We have been so sorry to hear that Auntie* was ill -- I hope that you and Uncle John will take good care of yourselves.

With much love to both S. O. J.

Notes

Whittier spoon: John Greenleaf Whittier died in 1892. Key to Correspondents.

Auntie: Usually, Auntie is Lucretia Morse Fisk Perry. Key to Correspondents.

This letter is held by Colby College Special Collections, Waterville, Maine: JEWE.1. It was previously transcribed, edited and annotated by Richard Cary for *Sarah Orne Jewett Letters*. New transcription and notes.

Richard Burton to Sarah Orne Jewett

Hartford, Jan. 29
[*1895*]*

Dear Miss Jewett: --

-- I saw Miss Guiney* at the Worcester Authors Reading and enjoyed a chat with her very much -- all but when she told me that you had been having the lung fever since you were here. Please let me send my sympathy and

[*Page 2*]

the hope that you are yourself again. If your writing is any proof of it, you certainly are, for your December stories* (Harper's, Century and Atlantic) are "out of sight" as the boys say, meaning gilt-edged. Present my respects to Mrs. Fields: did she get a

[*Page 3*]

note from me about her book? I am coming to Boston for a lecture on Tuesday morning, Feb. 19, and if she will let me call upon her, I shall be delighted to do so -- and I hope you will be there. With best wishes,

Very Sincerely Yrs
Richard Burton

We miss the Warners* beyond words. Isn't his word on The Yellows in [Feb *?*] Harper's [delirious *?*] !

Notes

1895: The notes below establish fairly firmly that this letter was composed in 1895, when 19 February fell on a Tuesday.

Guiney: Louisa Imogen Guiney. Key to Correspondents. It is not yet known to which Authors Reading Burton refers.

December stories: There was no December in Jewett's career when she published stories in *Harper's* and *Century* and *Atlantic.* In 1894, Jewett published "A Neighbor's Landmark" in *Century*. In the following months, "A War Debt" appeared in the January *Harper's*, and "The Life of Nancy" in the February *Atlantic*.

Fields: Annie Adams Fields's new books in 1895 were *The Singing Shepherd* (poems) and *Letters of Celia Thaxter*.

Warners: Charles Dudley Warner. Key to Correspondents. The Warners wintered in Florence, Italy in 1895. In his "Editor's Study" column in *Harper's*, February 1895, Warner wrote about "The Yellows in Literature."

The manuscript of this letter is held by the Houghton Library of Harvard University, Cambridge, MA. bMS Am 1743 Box 1, Item 34 I. Letters to Sarah Orne Jewett.

Sarah Orne Jewett to Mrs. Rogers

Thursday February 7th [*1895*]*
148 Charles Street

Dear Mrs Rogers*

You left me a lovely gift of flowers and* I have been enjoying them so very much that I wished to thank you by break of day! When one loses the great pleasure of being well and keeping at work there seems to be a kind of beggary of happiness set in, which can only be relieved by

[*Page 2*]

the kind thought of ones friends! Somehow these lovely pinks brought me a very great pleasure.

I hope to see you soon, but I shall long be sorry about missing the luncheon.

Believe me
-- Yours sincerely and affectionately,

Sarah O. Jewett

Notes

1895: Cary's rationale for this date is not known. February 7 fell on a Thursday in 1895.

and: Jewett sometimes writes "and" as an "a" with a long tail. I render these as "and."

Rogers: This person has not been identified, but it is possible she is Maria Catherine Dolliver Rogers (1839-1909), spouse of the architect Louis Phillippe Rogers (1838-1905). If she is the right person, then this letter's date would seem reasonable. According the Back Bay Houses, the family was away from Massachusetts from about 1877 until sometime in the 1890s, when they returned to Malden, MA.

Among Fields's acquaintance was Emma Savage Rogers (1824-1911), spouse of William

Barton Rogers (1804-82), geologist, physicist, educator, and founder of Massachusetts Institute of Technology.

The manuscript of this letter is held by Colby College Special Collections, Waterville, Maine: JEWE.1. It was previously transcribed, edited and annotated by Richard Cary for *Sarah Orne Jewett Letters*. New transcription and notes.

Sarah Orne Jewett to Mrs. Rogers

148 Charles Street
Wednesday
[*February 1895*]*

[*Letterhead at left margin consisting of the initials SOJ overlapping inside a circle*]

Dear Mrs. Rogers*

Mrs. Fields sends her love and warm thanks for your most dear remembrance and for the beautiful flowers. She took out one or two of the lilies and kept them close beside*

[*Page 2*]

her until she went to sleep -- I am so glad to tell you that she has at last got [free *?*] of the fever, and is really gaining a little strength. It has been such a hard pull and so disappointing to both of us to have it come just now. I was sorrier than I can [be *?*] not to see you but the doctor has been strict with me, also! -- and my "one friend a day" was there at the moment.

With much love and thanks fr. both, Yours always

S. O. Jewett

Notes

February 1895: This letter seems to pair with Jewett's 7 February 1895 letter to Mrs. See the notes to that letter.

beside: The letter breaks off in the middle of a page. The handwriting is poor, as if the writer is having some difficulty. On the next page, however, it continues with easily legible handwriting.

The manuscript of this letter is held by the Small Library, University of Virginia, Special Collections MSS 6218, Sarah Orne Jewett Papers.

Sarah Orne Jewett to Marianne Cabot Devereux Silsbee

148 Charles Street
Thursday
[*February 1895*]

My dear Mrs. Silsbee

I thank you most heartily for your kind thought of me and for the lovely pinks. I have a peculiar fondness for them always and these were particularly welcome. I

[*Page 2*]

am very sorry that you have been ill too -- Do let us get well just as fast as we can!

With love from Mrs. Fields pray believe me

Yours gratefully

Sarah O. Jewett*

Notes

February: This date is completely speculative. Jewett and Annie Fields both seem to have been seriously ill at this time and received flowers from several friends. This letter harmonizes with that group.

Jewett: With this note on a third page written on the back of one of the pages of the letter are these lines, presumably by Mrs. Silsbee:

Miss Jewett
White Lilies Narcissus
answered

The manuscript of this letter is held by the Small Library, University of Virginia, Special Collections MSS 6218, Sarah Orne Jewett Papers.

Sarah Orne Jewett to Louisa Dresel

[*Begin letterhead*]
South Berwick, Maine
[*End letterhead*]

12 Feb^{y} 1895*

My dear Loulie

You will be glad to know that I am getting better, especially since the cold of last week departed and left that lovely bright sunshine. I think that I shall go on now and soon feel quite strong

[*Page 2*]

again. My breathing works [seem *corrected*] to have taken a turn at being rheumatic -- after trying

what bronchitis or whatever it was ^would do^: but I believe people are apt to feel aches and pains for a while after such an attack as I had in December -- I have thought of you but it seemed as if there were little to [write *?*] and I didn't somehow incline toward

[*Page 3*]

the company of my ink bottle as much as usual. In the cold weather my sister and I asked an old school mate who lives alone and "takes her meals out" -- to come and stay with us -- and I had such a nice time with "Becca"* who always sets me to remembering the past and dragging remote little experiences out of the cracks and burrows of my memory. This is only

[*Page 4*]

to thank you for your kindest letter and to send my love to you and to "Mamma{.}" I hope you were stern with her about not 'playing out' in such weather as last week but got other little girls to come every day to play with her! This may not seem kind to her 'other little girls' but they are rather impersonal in this connection and so I dont fear their getting pains or sneezes. Mrs. Fields wrote me that she had a [*deletion*] ^charming^ visit to your Aunties one day lately, which made me feel quite envious. So please give my love to them.

[*Up the left margin and across the top margin of page 1*]

I hope your painting days are more and more satisfactory. Have you seen Miss Porter at Mrs. Cabots?* She is an old friend of mine in whom I always delight. I know you would like her.

Yours always affectionately, S O.J.

Notes

1995: With this letter is an envelope addressed to Mifs Dresel at 328 Beacon Street, Boston, cancelled on 12 February 1895.

"Becca": Probably Rebecca Young. Key to Correspondents.

Miss Porter at Mrs. Cabots: Susan Burley Howes Cabot. Key to Correspondents. Miss Porter probably is American educator, Sarah Porter (1813-1900).

The manuscript of this letter is held by the Princeton University Library, Princeton, NJ: Robert H. Taylor Collection of English and American Literature RTC01, Box 10, Folder 12.

Sarah Orne Jewett to Annie Adams Fields

Thursday evening
[*13 February 1895*]*

Dearest Fuff

(What a dinner party chez Mrs. Dorr!* and Pinny to laugh, and kind of chuckle too 'cause she was n't there, and doesn't want to go to any dinner parties anyway, but would like to see her A.F. very much ..... Also Katy* to whom I have been meaning to write but somehow I have a great pull getting my letters written ....)* Miss Hayman's funeral* was yesterday and I saw it go by with much sorrow. The bell tolled in an old fashioned drowsy way. I dont

[*Page 2*]

know why drowsy but it was! -- After thinking it was gloomy and old fashioned some years ago they stopped tolling but of late it has begun again and I think it is village like and good. The last time I heard it was when General Grant died* and then it had been stopped for some time -- but I went after the sextons and made them ^both^ ~~all~~ toll that day! (-- It is delicious winter weather and I had a little drive ^today^ which was quite exciting -- John had Princess* out and she was werry* gay. Oh dont have another calling day unless

[*Page 3*]

it is mild! It is such a way to get tired and get cold.)

There is a very interesting paper about Mr. Darmesteter in Littell* taken from the Contemporary, that I will send you as soon as Mary has finished -- She borrowed such a curious book for me from Mr. Oakes, the lawyer,* yesterday at which I have taken two amusing pulls = Copies of the wills of York County in ^the province of^ Massachusetts Bay* = for the first hundred years or so of settlement. You wouldn't care much about it -- but it has such delicious glimpses of local history and funny expressions and words, and theology, and family

[*Page 4*]

squabbles and best paduasoy* gowns all mixed up = Some of the people of Berwick had lots of money for that early time -- and some left some of it to cousins in Old England -- I shall take another 'pull' at it -- but isn't it good to have the state do such things and the Historical Society? (I send you Mrs. Alexander's* letter but will you please send it

right back? and Aunt Mary* shall have it then --

What a rambling letter dear Fuff! but you will forgive it. = Oh I have been so pleased to think of Thérèse's nice bit of money going over to her! If you haven't sent her the Dr. Holmes paper I will. She has the

[*Up the left margin and across the top margin of page 1*]

Atlantic. I thought I should send it to her this year{,} it promises to be so good. I cant get over the pleasure of all the charming letters coming to you about [the *?*] two papers.*

Goodnight dear
from P. L.

Notes

13 February 1895: The year is supported by the death of Sarah Hayman on 11 February 1895, along with other supporting evidence in the notes below. Valentine's Day (14 February) fell on Friday in 1895; Jewett apparently wrote this letter on the evening before.

Fields has deleted "Fuff." She seems also have penciled in the top right corner a squiggle followed by "Feb 14". She has underlined "Thursday evening" and has drawn a semicircular line through her squiggle and "Feb 14."

Parenthesis marks in this manuscript were penciled by Fields.

Mrs. Dorr: Julia Caroline Ripley Dorr. Key to Correspondents.

Katy: Which of the many "Katys" this may be from among the Jewett and Fields acquaintance is not yet known.

Miss Hayman: Almost certainly this is Sarah Hayman (c. 1811- 11 February 1895), probably the daughter of Edward P. Hayman (1773-1831) and Sarah Thompson (c. 1775-1836),.

written ....): While the parenthesis mark seems clearly to have been added by Fields, Jewett has drawn a line from near it to a box she has drawn -- probably in pencil -- in the top right margin, where she has written -- at right angle to the page, with the left page margin up -- "and I a knocking at your window, to be your valentine ...."

General Grant died: Ulysses S. Grant, Union Army Commander and United States President (1822-23 July 1885).

John had Princess: John Tucker and a Jewett family horse. Key to Correspondents.

werry: Jewett uses a British dialect spelling for "very" such as one might see in Charles Dickens's fiction.

Mr. Darmesteter in Littell: "James Darmesteter" by M. Gaston Paris appeared in *Littell's Living Age* 204 (16 February 1895) pp. 387-403, reprinted from *The Contemporary Review*. Darmesteter (1849-1894) was a French Jewish author, orientalist, and antiquarian.

Mr. Oakes, the lawyer: Judge Abner Oakes (1820-1899), a longtime South Berwick attorney and state representative, father of painter Marcia Oakes Woodbury, who, with her husband, illustrated the 1893 edition of Jewett's *Deephaven*. Key to Correspondents.

Massachusetts Bay: According to Wikipedia, from the coming of the first European settlers in the 1620s until 1820, Maine was part of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts.

paduasoy: a strong corded silk fabric.

Mrs. Alexander: Frances / Fanny "Francesca" Alexander (1837-1917) was an American illustrator, author, and translator. Her mother was Lucia Gray Swett (Mrs. Francis) Alexander (1814-1916), also a translator from Italian to English. Wikipedia identifies her father, the American portrait painter, Francis Alexander (1800-1880). In the 1850s, they moved from Boston to Florence. In 1882 Francesca met John Ruskin, becoming his friend and correspondent until his death in 1900.

The Schlesinger Library sketch of the family notes:

> In Florence the Alexanders moved among the social, cultural and ecclesiastical elite of northern Italy, and entertained distinguished visitors from overseas. Esther Frances Alexander devoted herself to art and to charity among the Tuscan peasants: some of them considered her a saint. International celebrity came to her with the close friendship that developed in 1882 between the Alexander women and John Ruskin. The English art critic bought Esther Frances Alexander's illustrated manuscript, "Roadside Songs of Tuscany" (published 1883); edited "Christ's Folk in the Apennines" (1887-1889); and discussed her drawing in his Slade Lectures at Oxford. "Tuscan Songs" (1897) and "The Hidden Servants and Other Very Old Stories" (1900) also sold well. In 1905 at the age of ninety, Lucia Gray Alexander published "Il Libro de Oro," a collection of saints' legends. She died

in 1916 in Florence. Francesca, who had been dominated and protected by her mother all her life, died there in January 1917.

Aunt Mary: Probably Mary Olivia Gilman Long. Key to Correspondents.

Thérèse's: Marie Thérèse de Solms Blanc.

two papers: In February 1895, two pieces by Annie Fields were published.

"Oliver Wendell Holmes: Personal Recollections and Unpublished Letters," *Century* (Feb. 1895) pp. 505-15.

"Celia Thaxter," *Atlantic* (Feb. 1895) pp. 254-66.

P.L.: For Pinny Lawson. Fields has drawn a semicircular line under P.L. curving up on each side to include "dear from P.L."

The manuscript of this letter is held by the Houghton Library of Harvard University. Jewett, Sarah Orne, 1849-1909. Annie Fields (Adams) 1834-1915, recipient. 194 letters; 1877-1909 & [n.d.] Sarah Orne Jewett correspondence, 1861-1930. MS Am 1743 (255).

Sarah Orne Jewett to Frances Rollins Morse

[*Begin letterhead*]
South Berwick, Maine
[*End letterhead*]

13 Feb 1895*

My dear Fanny

I dont think I can tell you how much pleasure your dear and kind letter gave me. Yes, indeed -- I am afraid that there is nothing exaggerated about the Story of the Town Poor!* but that system is far better, to my way

[*Page 2*]

of thinking than the one that prevails in New Hampshire. Here in Maine we still keep to the town farm plan (as in Betsey Lane!)* but across the river they gave up town farms and have county 'farms' -- In Strafford county nearest us, there has been a miserable state of things -- Twice there have been dreadful

[*Page 3*]

fires in the buildings which were as bad as anything Kennah* has told us of in Russia -- All these investigations and disclosures have made a ^slightly^ better state of things -- but you put your finger on the cure when you wish for women visitors and inspectors -- especially in country neighborhoods.

-- Lately Mrs. Rebecca Harding

[*Page 4*]

Davis* had a paper in one of the magazines bewailing the condition of New England "Cabins" which I thought very wrongheaded and based upon experiences in earlier times. I have seen such a change in the comfort of the poorer sort of farm life in the last twenty years that I believe firmly that the level of things has improved as fast as could have been hoped ^for^ -- the great problem is the assimilation of foreign

[*Page 5, letterhead page*]

material from country districts. There are many things I should like to talk over with you.

It has been such good news to hear from your dear mother that she felt better than she did earlier in the winter. I can say the same but I am still obliged to lead a very lazy life and though nobody like to be lazy and

[*Page 6*]

to read story books better than I, I always have a dreadful [*deletion*] consciousness of things I have had to leave undone and promises coming due the first of March for stories of my own! But a vacation is good -- even for a ten acre field ! -----

Which reminds me to say how lovely it is in the country now. I wish you could see the shining tops of the hills against the blue

[*Up the left margin and cross-written from the left in the top half of page 5*]

sky -- With dear love and best thanks for what really did a fellow good! Yours affectionately

Sarah O. Jewett

and my love to your mother* of course.

[*Up the left margin and cross-written from the left in the top half of page 1*]

I have just had a long letter from dear old Mrs Alexander* in Florence -- She sends me an account of the soup kitchens in [*unrecognized name*] which I heard about when I saw her -- Such <u>different</u> poverty! Thank Heaven we dont have the <u>pellagra</u> to contend with!

Notes

1895: Penciled, possibly in another hand, in the top right corner of page 5: "[*unrecognized word*]

as city".

Town Poor: Jewett's "The Town Poor" appeared in *Atlantic Monthly* in July 1890, and was collected in *Strangers and Wayfarers*, 1890.

Betsey Lane: Jewett's "The Flight of Betsey Lane" appeared in *Scribner's Magazine* in August 1893, and was collected in *A Native of Winby*, 1893.

Kennah: This transcription is uncertain, and this person has not yet been identified.

Rebecca Harding Davis: American author, Rebecca Blaine Harding Davis (1831-1910). Her essay, "In the Gray Cabins of New England," appeared in *Century Magazine* (1895, pp. 620-23).

mother: Harriet Lee Morse. See Frances Morse in Key to Correspondents.

Mrs. Alexander: Lucia Gray Swett (Mrs. Francis) Alexander. See Jewett to Fields of 13 February 1895.

The manuscript of this letter is held by the Houghton Library of Harvard University, Cambridge, MA. bMS Am 1743.1 Sarah Orne Jewett Additional Correspondence II. Letters from Sarah Orne Jewett, Box 4 (122).

Sarah Orne Jewett to Anne Whitney

[*Begin letterhead*]
South Berwick, Maine
[*End letterhead*]

14 Febʸ 1895

Dear Miss Whitney

I have thought of you and Miss Manning* a great many times in these last few days. You must think of me as one who will miss your dear sister* -- for even though I saw her so seldom I never thought of her without sympathy and affection. She gave these gifts herself in such

[*Page 2*]

full measure that she could not help waking them in other peoples hearts. I think she bore the trial of age and feebleness wonderfully when one considers that she found them peculiarly trying -- You cannot think how I love to remember the affectionateness she always showed to me -- there was something unbreakable between us for I was very fond of her and I find myself thinking of her

[*Page 3*]

very often in this winter when I have been ill too and wishing to do things I cannot do.

I send much love to you both and wish that I could come to see you instead of writing.

Yours affectionately

Sarah O. Jewett

Notes

Manning: Abby Adeline Manning, domestic partner of Anne Whitney. See Whitney in Key to Correspondents.

sister: Whitney's only sister was Sarah Watson Whitney (1817 - 10 February 1895). Find a Grave.

The manuscript of this letter is held by Wellesley College Archives and may be viewed here: https://repository.wellesley.edu/object/wellesley12427. I am grateful for the basic transcription that appears with this manuscript. With the letter is an envelope addressed to Mifs Anne Whitney, The Charlesgate, Boston, Massachusetts. On the back it is cancelled: 14 February 1895. New transcription and notes.

Sarah Orne Jewett to Frances Smith*

15 February 1895
[*Begin letterhead*]
South Berwick, Maine
[*End letterhead*]

Dear Frances Smith

I saw that the Appalachian Club* was trying to raise a fund for buying pieces of wild land about the mountain paths, and it interests me very much. I lost

[*Page 2*]

the address of the treasurer which I saw a few days ago in one of the newspapers, so I am sending this cheque to you. I am sure you will know where it ought to go.

= I know that Mrs. Fields gave you my message

[*Page 3*]

about the pink roses, but I am so glad to take this chance of telling you again how beautiful they were and how much I thanked you for thinking of me when I was ill. Mrs. Fields and I thought they were the loveliest roses that ever bloomed in

[*Page 4*]

winter weather the day they came in out of the

cold.

I have been hoping to go back to town, but it seems to take a great while to get mended! I hope that when I do come I shall be sure to see you.

Yours affectionately
Sarah O. Jewett

Notes

Smith: Frances Smith has not yet been identified. In a letter of 27 August 1890, Jewett addresses her as Miss Smith.

Appalachian Club: Presumably, Jewett refers to the Appalachian Mountain Club, formed in Boston, MA in 1876, with the purpose of preserving the popular White Mountains vacation area of New Hampshire.

The manuscript of this letter is held by Milne Special Collections and Archives, University of New Hampshire Library, Durham, NH, USA: Sarah Orne Jewett Papers, 1849-1909 Series 1: Correspondence, MC 128 Box 1, Folder 5.

Julia Caroline Ripley Dorr to Sarah Orne Jewett

Feb. 18. 1895 --

[*Begin letterhead*]
The Maples
[*End letterhead*]

My dear Miss Jewett --

The pretty book* that came to me on my birthday with your autograph on the fly leaf, gave me great delight. Of course the stories are not new to me -- for I always read everything of yours that I can lay my hands on; but it is a great pleasure to have the book

[*Page 2*]

from yourself, and I thank you heartily for giving me that pleasure.

To tell you the honest truth, your stories of New England life are the ^(perhaps it would be in better taste to put an almost in here)^ only ones that do not jar upon me. You show the underlying something that the others fail to catch -- Your women are not merely a group of vulgar, illiterate,

[*Page 3*]

narrow, contracted souls, with no thoughts beyond their own small round. Your women are sweet-souled and generous, with thoughts beneath their [crudeties *?*]. Look for instance at dear Mrs. Goodsoe!* I love that woman -- and as for [*2 unrecognized words*] she is as real as the everlasting hills. I know dozens of her!

The first time I saw

[*Page 4*]

you was at the Holmes Breakfast* in /79 -- we were not introduced but I fell in love with you then and there, and have never faltered in my allegiance for one moment since.

I hope you are quite well again -- Believe me

Affectionately yours
Julia C. R. Door.

[Have *?*] you read [*unrecognized abbreviation*] Davis "Gray Cabins"* [&c *?*] in the last Century? It is awful.

Notes

book: In 1895, Jewett published her collection, *The Life of Nancy*.

Goodsoe: Mrs. Goodsoe appears in "The Courting of Sister Wisby," which was collected in *The King of Folly Island* (1888).

Holmes Breakfast: A dinner to honor Oliver Wendell Holmes Sr. on his 70th birthday took place in Boston on 3 December 1879. In *Sarah Orne Jewett*, Paula Blanchard says that Jewett and Annie Adams Fields began their friendship at this dinner (pp. 113-14).

"Gray Cabins": American author, Rebecca Blaine Harding Davis (1831-1910) published "The Gray Cabins of New England" in *Century Magazine* in February 1895, pp. 620-23.

The manuscript of this letter is held by the Miller Library, Special Collections, Colby College, Waterville, ME: JEWE.1.

Arthur Sherburne Hardy to Sarah Orne Jewett

[*Begin letterhead, with graphic design. Only text is given here.*]

THE
COSMOPOLITAN
MAGAZINE
MADISON SQUARE BANK BUILDING
[*A line not readable in the photocopy*]
NEW YORK

[*End letterhead*]

New York Feb 18th 1895

My dear Miss Jewett

I write to ask if you have not a short story* which you would be kind enough to allow us to examine. I should greatly prefer one not too long for publication in a single issue, and hope very much that you can favor us in this matter{.}

Very sincerely yours
Arthur Sherburne Hardy
Miss Sarah Orne Jewett

Notes

story: In her career, Jewett published two stories in *Cosmopolitan*: "The Passing of Sister Barsett" (May 1892) and "The Grey Mills of Farley" (June 1898).

The manuscript of this letter is held by the Houghton Library of Harvard University: Sarah Orne Jewett Correspondence I, Letters to Sarah Orne Jewett. Hardy, Arthur Sherburne, 1847-1930. 1 letter; 1893. (91). This transcription is from a photocopy held by the Maine Women Writer's Collection, University of New England, Letters from Sarah Orne Jewett, 1875-1890, Box 2, Folder 99, Burton Trafton Jewett Research Collection.

Sarah Orne Jewett to Annie Adams Fields

Tuesday morning
[*19 February 1895*]*

Dearest Annie

Your Sunday letter missed yesterday so I am looking for it with double eagerness this morning. I had the most enchanting drive yesterday -- Mary and I went out with John* and when we were going along the great hill road* with great calmness he [suddenly *corrected*] turned into a wood road and we went a mile or two through a lovely wild bit of country where the choppers were at work, but discreetly, and it was all so

[*Page 2*]

picturesque with a dark bit of fine forest that had grown up so crowded that all the under boughs were dead and gray and mossy but there was a nice thick roof where the high tops were green overhead. But when we were out of that we caught sight of a sledding track on the Great Works river ((* We were near Mr. Shaw's* [the *corrected*] egg man's, if you remember where that is) and so) we came miles down river [toward *corrected*] home in places where I never was before. It is a swift little river in places, [so *corrected*] that it takes

[*Page 3*]

unusual cold to make the ice safe for heavy teams but on [one *corrected*] bank there is the finest forest I ever have seen for ever so many years. I must go up the river in a boat early this summer, for the great pines and hemlocks and oaks lean out over the water and [must *corrected*] make it perfectly beautiful. It is a hard place to get to except as we did yesterday, but [when *corrected*] I asked John how it happened that the woods had been left and looked so splendidly, he said that it was town land, and part of

[*Page 4*]

our poor farm property* which is quite a magnificent estate! and that they only cut these great trees as they were needed for bridges &c (You know we are always poor by reason of so many bridges!) and so they never have stripped that great tract as almost every other piece of land has been. The trees looked fully grown most of them but none of them <u>going back</u> as John would say! and so I hope they will last a good many years, at any rate until I have time to show them to you. Talk of traveling in Europe! Berwick is still undiscovered by me, though I think I know it pretty well. We must go

[*Up the left margin and across the top margin of page 1*]

boating a good deal this summer if you come down as you promise. Do tell me all you can about the Winter's Tale.* I forget what night you are going or is it <u>day</u>?

With dear love.
P.L.

Tell Alice* the shadows were lovely on the snow.

Notes

19 February 1895: This guess at the composition date is based upon the speculation that Jewett refers to the Boston Saturday Morning Club's production of "The Winter's Tale" during the week of 18 February 1895. See notes below.

John: John Tucker. Key to Correspondents.

great hill road: This road, north of South Berwick, runs past Great Hill, which stands over the Great Works River. See Pirsig, *The Placenames of South Berwick*, pp. 214-22.

river ((: The first parenthesis mark was penciled by Fields; she closes this after "and so." The remaining parenthesis marks in this letter are by Jewett.

Mr. Shaw's: Mr. Shaw, the egg man, has not yet

been identified.

poor farm property: Wendy Pirsig, in *The Placenames of South Berwick*, describes the Town Farm property: "100 acres on both sides of Knight's Pond Road -- some cultivated, some forested -- stretching from Knight's Pond to the Great Works River" (pp. 227-9).

Winter's Tale: William Shakespeare's play, *The Winter's Tale*, (c. 1611) was performed at Copley Hall, Boston, in February 1895 by the Saturday Morning Club, with a cast of women only. While one cannot yet be certain that this is the performance to which Jewett refers, it is at least likely. *The Bostonian* 2 (April 1895) presents a detailed, illustrated description of this production (pp. 1- 16). The catalog of the records of the Club, held by the Schlesinger Library at Harvard, lists a number of Jewett friends associated with the Saturday Morning Club, including its founder, Julia Ward Howe, as well as Phillips Brooks, Oliver Wendell Holmes, Alice Longfellow, Louise Moulton, Sarah Wyman Whitman, and Annie Fields.

Alice: Probably Alice Greenwood Howe, but possibly Alice Longfellow. Key to Correspondents.

The manuscript of this letter is held by the Houghton Library of Harvard University. Jewett, Sarah Orne, 1849-1909. Annie Fields (Adams) 1834-1915, recipient. 194 letters; 1877-1909 & [n.d.] Sarah Orne Jewett correspondence, 1861-1930. MS Am 1743 (255).

Sarah Orne Jewett to Annie Adams Fields

Friday --
[22 February *1895*]*

Dear Annie

I forgot to tell you something in my letter this morning, that was a great pleasure yesterday. A fine letter from Smith and Elder* asking if I would let them have a little novel !! They are making a new series and speak of arranging with Mrs. Humphry Ward* and write very handsome to a poor Pinny. It quite cheered me up, just as I was having a time of thinking that I had said over twice everything that I had to say. I am now drudging at a robber story for

[*Page 2*]

for Mr. Stedmans syndicate* which was promised first for January 1st and then for March 1st and has been a weight upon my mind -- exciting adventures, which were requested, being far from my thoughts. But I hope to get it off before I start for Charley Street.*

Saturday morning. And brisk and wintry it looks, but this bright sun and Southerly wind will tempt us out in the afternoon -- meantime I shall copy all the morning.

(-- What does Alice say about Fanny Stone?* I wonder if she is going

[*Page 3*]

2

(to stay in Newburyport or if she will go south by and by --) Do ask Hagerty*to get you a March Harper and read Fame's Little Day* so you can tell me what you think of it. I am almost afraid to look at it, the proof seemed so slight and thin and as if it were the poor bones of a little story -- Yet you remember we liked it at first, and perhaps it was only because were in New York [ourselves *corrected*] and surrounded by that atmosphere which we

[*Page 4*]

[unconsciously *?*] added -- Well, it either is good or it isn't, and there it is, done and gone!

I have just looked at it -- in the morning mail, and I laughed right out quite pleased, and one of the pictures at least* of the two old figures of them is quite delightful.

But though this is now said I long to hear what you think.

(I just looked at it in a copy which they sent me and must turn away from temptation and do my work but it looks like a nice magazine -- (Fuffy dear, I wish

[*Up the left margin and then across the top margin of page 4*]

you would try to take a little whisky with your lunch or dinner{.} Sometimes it shores you up in cold weather.) With dear love

Pin

[*Up the left margin of page 1*]

(I had such a dear letter from Alice Howe yesterday.

Notes

22 February 1895: See Jewett to Stedman of 25 February, which accompanied her submission of "A Dark Night."

Someone, probably Fields, has deleted "Annie"

in the greeting, possibly in pencil.

Parenthesis marks in this manuscript were penciled by Fields.

Smith and Elder: A British publisher. Jewett is not known to have contributed to the series mentioned here.

Mrs. Humphry Ward: Key to Correspondents.

syndicate: The "robber story" almost certainly was "A Dark Night," which probably appeared in a number of newspapers, but at this point is known to have appeared only in *Philadelphia Press,* April 16-19, 1895. Mr. Stedman is Arthur Griffin Stedman. Key to Correspondents.

Charley Street: Fields's Boston home at 148 Charles St. Fields appears to have deleted "reet".

Alice ... Fanny Stone: Frances Coolidge Stone (1851-1931) of Newburyport, MA, was the daughter of Massachusetts politician Eben Francis Stone (1822-1895), who served in Congress in 1881-1887. Among her closest friends was Alice Longfellow. Key to Correspondents.

Hagerty: This person probably was a Fields employee, but nothing is yet known about him.

Fame's Little Day: Jewett's "Fame's Little Day" *Harper's Magazine* (90:560-565), March 1895, with three illustrations by William Thomas Smedley

at least: It is not clear whether Fields meant to underline one or both or neither of these words.

The manuscript of this letter is held by the Houghton Library of Harvard University. Jewett, Sarah Orne, 1849-1909. Annie Fields (Adams) 1834-1915, recipient. 194 letters; 1877-1909 & [n.d.] Sarah Orne Jewett correspondence, 1861-1930. MS Am 1743 (255).

Sarah Chauncey Woolsey to Sarah Orne Jewett

Feb 23 /95

[*Begin letterhead*,
with a small drawing of an arm lifted above water grasping what appears to be a bone.]
93, RHODE ISLAND AVENUE,
NEWPORT.
[*End letterhead*]

My naughty one

February [moves *?*] on apace and "Where is Country [girl *?*] "? [Would *?*] you feel like coming this week -- for Sunday and a little before or a little after? We should love to have you.

Your loving
Coolidge

Notes

1896: Associated with this letter is an envelope addressed to Jewett at 148 Charles St. Boston, and forwarded to South Berwick, canceled 23 February 1898.

The manuscript of this letter is held by the Houghton Library of Harvard University, Cambridge, MA. bMS Am 1743 Box 5, Item 244.

Sarah Orne Jewett to Arthur Griffin Stedman

25 February 1895
South Berwick.
Maine.

Dear Mr. Stedman

I send you the story for Messrs. Bacheller & Co.* and I hope that it serves their purpose -- I chose this scheme rather than one or two others which I had in hand, bearing in mind Mr. Bacheller's special message about "action & excitement" and that "the story would be printed in instalments of about 2000 words." Two, or three, of these four chapters will go two or three hundred words beyond that -- but I hope the story will be manageable -- in every way! and pray do not let it be reckoned as over the 8000 words of the original contract!

This fortnight's work has been the first after my illness, which has been even longer and more hindering than I feared when I wrote you. {and} I thought within a month even, that I must give up all my engagements. But since I have been getting out I have quickly picked up strength and now after five or six weeks in the country I shall soon be going back to town. To pervert Dr. Johnson a little: "Sir, when you have seen one snow ^(green)^ field you have seen all snow ^(green)^ fields. Sir I like to look upon men. Let us walk down Charles Street!"* Yet there never was a more beautiful winter in this bit of Country, and now that the elms look browner and the sky bluer I am sorry to go away again. Shall we not see you in Charles St. this spring? -- and may I venture to send a message of great regard to your father* at the end of this letter which seems to have wandered far from business. I wish to thank you at this late date for sending me your report of the Bryant Centennial Celebration.* What a dusty friendly delightful day it was, and how clearly you

brought back my two last impressions of it and made me quite forget the dust! I hope that we shall not forget to talk about it some day. Mr. Warner's "Study" paper* which recalled it was full of wisdom -- did you not think so?

Yours most sincerely
Sarah O. Jewett.

Notes

story for Messrs. Bacheller & Co.: Green points out that the story Jewett has submitted was "A Dark Night." He adds that this was one of at least eight that Jewett contributed to the Bacheller Syndicate for publication in more than 50 American city newspapers. Though Edmund Clarence Stedman was the "official" literary consultant for the syndicate, the elder Stedman delegated much of the work to his son, Arthur.

down Charles Street: Jewett refers to the home of Annie Adams Fields on Charles St. in Boston. Key to Correspondents.

Jewett's revision of British author Samuel Johnson (1709-1784) may be based on an apocryphal anecdote. It has proven difficult to find an exact statement of this idea in his published works or biography. Green points to a colleague's suggestion of *Anecdotes of the late Samuel Johnson,* (1786) by Hester Lynch Piozzi. This passage reports Johnson saying while traveling through the countryside, "A blade of grass is always a blade of grass, whether in one country or another: let us if we *do* talk, talk about something; men and women are my subjects of inquiry; let us see how these differ from those we have left behind" (p. 100). Perhaps based upon this anecdote, a number of sources, some contemporary with Jewett, attribute the following quotation to Johnson, without providing a source for it: "Sir, when you have seen one green field, you have seen all green fields; sir, I like to look upon men. Let us walk down Cheapside." See, for example, *Notes and Queries* (1894), p. 337. Jewett may have seen the anecdote in George Henry Lewes, *A Biographical History of Philosophy* (1845), p. 199.

your father: Edmund Clarence Stedman. See Arthur Stedman in Key to Correspondents.

Bryant Centennial Celebration: Green's note on this says: "The Bryant Centenary," *Dial* 17 (1 Sept. 1894), pp. 107-108. The celebration took place at Cummington, Massachusetts, on 16 Aug. 1894.

Mr. Warner's "Study" paper: Green's note on this says: See "Editor's Study," *Harper's Magazine* 89 (1894), pp. 960-64, especially 962-63.

This transcription is by David Bonnell Green, who presented it in "Sarah Orne Jewett's 'A Dark Night'." *Papers of the Bibliographical Society of America* 53 (1959): 331-334. He expresses gratitude to R. Norris Williams, 2nd, and the Historical Society of Pennsylvania for permission to publish the transcription. However, in 2026, this letter is not listed in the holdings of the historical society, and the location of the manuscript is unknown. These new notes draw in part upon Green's own notes and contextualization of the letter in his essay.

Frances Elizabeth Willard to Sarah Orne Jewett

[*Letterhead inside a circle*: "Isabel".]

London, March 17, 1895.*

My dear Mifs Jewett;

Your sisterly letter reached us on the steamer and was deeply appreciated.

Every kind sentiment found warm response. We had counted much on seeing you and regretted that we did not meet more frequently.

[*Page 2*]

But you were not well and we are all women [painfully *?*] preoccupied.

-- We feel that you are a sister indeed and your work wonderfully genial and humanizing. May it perpetually [endure *?*]. Lady Henry* is [gratefully *so written*] to have won a word of commendation from so high a source. I will see that you have the story -- indeed will put you and dear Mrs. Fields on the list of both papers each by Lady Henry

[*Page 3*]

and "the undersigned." You did so much to endear Boston to us; we shall always carry in our hearts grateful memories of that heart-home-house on Charles St.

May one not have your picture sometime to put with that lovely one from your Friend?*

Somehow I was [near *?*] you in thought and affection with another dear friend -- Dr. Morton* -- your physician and ours. [*Unrecognized word, looks like* Pony] give her every kind message and say her three patients are up & about.

and now -- God be with you!

always sincerely
Frances E Willard

Notes

1895: It is not clear whether Willard wrote March 17 or March 27.

Lady Henry: Wikipedia says that Isabella Caroline, Lady Henry Somerset (1851-1921) was a British philanthropist who focused on women's rights and temperance. With Frances Willard she formed part of the leadership of the Woman's Christian Temperance Union.

Friend: Probably Willard refers to Fields rather than their deceased correspondent John Greenleaf Whittier, to whom Jewett and Fields referred as "Thy Friend."

Dr. Morton: Dr. Helen Morton. Key to Correspondents.

The manuscript of this letter is held by the Houghton Library of Harvard University: Sarah Orne Jewett Correspondence I, Letters to Sarah Orne Jewett. Willard, Frances Elizabeth, 1839-1898. 1 letter; 1895 bMS Am 1743 (237). This transcription is from a photocopy held by the Maine Women Writer's Collection, University of New England, Letters from Sarah Orne Jewett, 1875-1890, Box 2, Folder 99, Burton Trafton Jewett Research Collection.

Mary Augusta Ward to Sarah Orne Jewett

March 23d / 95

[*Begin letterhead*]

Stocks,
Tring

[*End letterhead*]

My dear Mifs Jewett

How sweet of you to write to me so kindly about my Dorothy!* Her letters to me describing her time with you, and her time in ^Boston^ generally have been a delight to me. How kind everyone has been to her -- you and dear Mrs Fields and Mrs Whitman eminently. It has been a

[*Page 2*]

great experience for her and I am so glad that you think she came well through it. She has one of those sunny responsive natures that make happiness for themselves and other people, and I shall be glad to have her back again! Will you thank Mrs Fields from me with my love for all her kindness to the child, and my dear husband. They cannot say enough in their letters to me of the enjoyment of their

[*Page 3*]

visit to you. Indeed I am very envious! -- and feel more & more that some sunny April I must and will trust myself to that terrible Atlantic. Unfortunately I have a small organic worry that would make sea sickness rather worse for me than for most people, but I am always hoping it will get better. Dorothy's description of you and the Nortons* & Mrs Whitman make me feel [*deletion* much *?*] as though there were some friends

[*Page 4*]

waiting for me far away whom I should love, & who might perhaps like me a little in return -- if only the fates would bring us together.

I am going to send you before long a proof of the little story* which is to begin to come out in May, in the hopes that you & Mrs Fields may like it. My pleasure in its ^coming out^ is very much spoilt by the fact that Messrs Scribner have insisted in dividing it into 3 -- a [rediculous *so it appears*] number of bites at a very small cherry, against which I have protested

[*Across the top margin of page 1*]

in vain. Unfortunately when I sold the copyright I did not take power to control this matter; & can only be wiser another time. Meanwhile nothing could be more inartistic, than the manner in which it will first appear, & I am troubled!

With my grateful and affectionate thanks to Mrs Fields, I am dear Mifs Jewett ever [affectly *so it appears*] yours

Mary A. Ward

[*Up the left margin of page 1*]

Would you be so kind as to let Mrs Whitman have the enclosed word? I do not know her address.

Notes

Dorothy: Dorothy Ward, Ward's daughter. Key to Correspondents.

Nortons: The family of Grace and Sara Norton. Key to Correspondents.

story: Ward's *The Story of Bessie Costrell* appeared in *Scribner's Magazine*, May - July 1895. When published in book form, it was about 60 pages long

The manuscript of this letter is held by the Houghton Library of Harvard University: Sarah Orne Jewett Additional Correspondence I, Letters to Sarah Orne Jewett. Ward, Mary Augusta

(Arnold), bMS Am 1743.1, Box 2, 106.

Joseph Jefferson to Annie Adams Fields

Parker House

March 27"
95*

My Dear M^rs^ Fields

Your kind invitation is before me and I have been turning over my engagement book to search

[*Page 2*]

for some day and hour that might suit yourself as well as a time that I can come to you ---

Will breakfast at 11 'o'clock on Saturday next do?

[*Page 3*]

If so I will be more than pleased to spend an hour or two with yourself and your friend Mifs Jewett.

With most cordial regards to Mifs J and yourself I am Faithfully yours

J Jefferson*

Notes

Jefferson: American actor, Joseph Jefferson (1829-1905), achieved fame for his adaptation and portrayal of Rip Van Winkle, a character invented by American author, Washington Irving (1783-1859). Wikipedia.

He was performing in Boston in March of 1895. See *The History of the Boston Theatre, 1854-1901*, p. 423. As other letters from March 1895 show, a number of friends of Fields and Sarah Orne Jewett gathered for breakfast with the actor on 30 March 1895.

The manuscript of this letter is held by the Houghton Library of Harvard University, Cambridge, MA. bMS Am 1743 Box 7, Item 325, III. Letters to Annie Adams Fields.

Louise Imogen Guiney to Annie Adams Fields

[*28 March 1895*]

Dear Mrs. Fields:

Very great bother and business, and an ill time with catarrh, have kept me, against my 'wish and [wont *or* want *?*]', from seeing you for an hour now and then. Hardly a Saturday ^has^ passed, during which I did not plan to look in upon you among your guests, (under the river-reflections and over the tea cups) and learn how you and Miss Jewett are, before flying back to Prose. But I get in very, very seldom, and always in a rush. And, in a rush or not, I shall hope to try the latch a week from Saturday, and carry off my aged toga up-stairs, and also, if you have truly read them and laid them aside, the pamphlet essay by 'John Eglinton', and my own little creased Shelley*

[*Page 2*]

clipping. For this reason: There is just a possibility of my going to the south coast of England for a three or four months rest. At least, I have applied to the authorities at Washington for leave, urged by the carefullest little mother extant, and by my own private admission to myself that I am not of much use at my post ^by day^ while I cannot sleep at night. Should I go, Alice Brown,* who is anything but well, would go with me. But this is all confidential and uncertain.

I should love to know Mr. Jefferson,* for whom I have (as who has not?) an affectionate reverence. But time, and the throat of me forbid. You are an expert at making people happy; for it [is *corrected*] joyful even to evade joy with a 'No, thank you', and the very next

[*Page 3*]

best thing to a 'Yes.' I saw a bluebird and three green spears of grass today, despite the snow. Remember me always to Miss Jewett; and believe me gratefully and altogether,

Louis I. Guiney

28th March, 1895: Auburndale, Mass.

Notes

'John Eglinton': Irish author, William Kirkpatrick Magee (1868-1961) used the pen-name of John Eglinton. It is not yet known which essay Guiney has lent to Fields.

Shelley: English poet Percy Bysshe Shelley (1792-1822). The clipping to which Guiney refers has not been identified.

Alice Brown: American author, Alice Brown (1857-1948). She and Guiney traveled to England together in 1895.

Mr. Jefferson: American actor, Joseph Jefferson (1829-1905). See Jefferson to Fields of 27 March 1895.

The manuscript of this letter is held by the Huntington Library, San Marino, CA, in the James

T. Fields collection Box 25: mss FI 1607.

Sarah Orne Jewett to Mary Rice Jewett

148 Charles Street
Friday afternoon
[*29 March 1895*]*

Dear Mary

It is just after half past one and I have had a good luncheon all by myself, Mrs. Fields* having gone to her uncle's funeral, but I gave many thoughts to the table at home and the dear faces about it. I dont [doubt *corrected*] you are still there, but I hurried, having

[*Page 2*]

nobody to talk to. Now I have come up to the library to confront my desk but I must send you a line first. I read all the way to town and saw the snow disappear little by little. For a wonder it was rather cold in the cars, so I might have worn my thicker dress after all -- and for a wonder

[*Page 3*]

too there was nobody in the train I knew -- after I parted with Mr. Jefferson.* I was really glad to light the fire when I got here and to sit down in peace beside it! But now I have written this, I dont seem to have much news!

Give my love to all "the company"

Yours lovingly

S. O. J.

Roland* has sent back all the rest of the proofs with no objections.

Notes

29 March 1895: An envelope associated with this letter in the MWWC folder was cancelled on this date and addressed to "Mifs" Mary R. Jewett in South Berwick.

Mrs. Fields: Annie Adams Fields's mother's brother was Rev. Frederick West Holland (1811 - 26 March 1895).

Mr. Jefferson: American actor, Joseph Jefferson (1829-1905). See Jefferson to Fields of 27 March 1895.

Roland: One of Celia Thaxter's sons was the biologist Roland Thaxter (1858-1932). Key to Correspondents. Jewett has sent him proofs for her 1896 edition of *The Poems of Celia Thaxter*. See her letter to Houghton Mifflin of 30 March 1896.

The manuscript of this letter is held by the University of New England Maine Women Writers Collection: Jewett Correspondence MWWC0196_02_00_096_01.

Sarah Orne Jewett to Riverside Press, Houghton Mifflin & Co.

[*30 March 1895*]*
[*Unknown hand*]
Sarah Orne Jewett
[*In Jewett's Hand*]

Please be careful to have all Mrs. King's letters marked to Anna Eichberg King* at the page foot. Sometimes they were incorrectly printed Annie.

These proofs are returned by Mr. Roland Thaxter,* and approved, so that the casting may go on now.

S.O.J.

over

[*Page 2*]

Should not there be a list of the letters -- an index* at the end of the book?

Has this been discussed?

Notes

1895: This unique manuscript has a light, circular stamp, with a clear date: 30 March 1895. Other clearly readable words include "Press-Cambridge." This and the content are enough information to establish that the subject is *Letters of Celia Thaxter*, edited by Annie Fields and Rose Lamb, published by the Riverside Press (Cambridge MA) of Houghton Mifflin & Co., 1895.

Anna Eichberg King: The Thaxter volume contains parts of several letters to American author Anna Eichberg King Lane (1856-1927), who married her second husband, publisher John Lane, in 1898. She was the daughter of Celia Thaxter's friend, Boston violinist and composer, Julius Eichberg (1824-1893). Internet sources vary on her birth date, between 1853 and 1863. Wikipedia.

Roland Thaxter: Celia Thaxter's son. See Thaxter in Key to Correspondents.

index: While there is not a list of letters in *Letters of Celia Thaxter*, there is an index.

The manuscript of this letter is held by the George J. Mitchell Department of Special Collections & Archives, Hawthorne-Longfellow Library, Brunswick, ME, Sarah Orne Jewett Papers, Series

1 (M238.1): Correspondence, 1877-1905, n.d.

Sarah Orne Jewett to Mary Rice Jewett

Saturday morning
[*30 March 1895*]*

Dear Mary

I had a beautiful time at the dinner last night, and sat next Mrs. Lawrence and Mrs. Howland Shaw* the other side. The table was beautiful with some [print *?*] orchids on it and we had everything that was good -- brandy peaches with the ice cream! which I look upon with special satisfaction. It was meant to be a ladies dinner but Mr. Richard Hunt* ^had^ suddenly appeared and so he and Mr. Brimmer were invited to join and we were very gay. S. W.* was there and Mrs.

[*Page 2*]

Bell and Mrs. Pratt and Mrs. George Hale & Miss Agnes Irwin.* Mrs. Bell is coming here today to breakfast with Mr. Jefferson.*

Mrs. Fields didn't get home until between four and five and she was so tired poor thing, and had a little supper up here in the library and went to bed early. Louise -- the seamstress had got my white crepon dress done with little of my help so that was hung away last night. Dont you know it was caught up at one side, not very pretty

[*Page 3*]

and this year it looked all pulled, so I had it made even all round. Your sister was deemed to be much dressed last night by S. W. & remarks were passed. The wider lace looks very nice and makes the effect of a cape which is all in fashion and makes the dress look lighter at table -- it ^the velvet^ is so black at night.

= I was reminded of a humble detail = There is some of that peppermint cordial. I thought it was the other in that little flask in the glass closet, so do use it up -- but put some ice in your glass!

[*Page 4*]

and be sure Cousin Maria and Auntie* have something nice every day. I meant to give them some champagne but I forgot all about it! There is the madeira and the other -- but you will know. --- [This *corrected*] invitation has just come to a "small informal breakfast at the Victoria Hotel" from Miss Wilkins and a Mrs. Delano of the Oxford* -- with "the favor of an answer is requested" written at the bottom!!! People do generally answer such invitations! but I daresay it is a stand-up one & kind of reception, in spite of their saying 'small & informal'. But I couldn't help laughing!'!! I must say goodby

[*Up the left margin and across the top margin of page 1*]

with ever and ever so much love. Mr. Jefferson is coming at eleven and I want to go out for half an hour first to get the air and do an errand!!

Sarah

(Do give Auntie some champagne{.} I should be so glad & it would do her good. Dont ask her!

Notes

30 March 1895: The envelope associated with this letter was cancelled in Boston on Saturday, 30 March 1895, addressed to Mary Rice Jewett in South Berwick.

Mrs. Lawrence and Mrs. Howland Shaw: Mrs. Lawrence probably is Elizabeth Chapman (1829-1905), widow of T. Bigelow Lawrence and a correspondent of Sarah Wyman Whitman (Key to Correspondents.) She was the subject of *E.L., the Bread Box Papers: The High Life of a Dazzling Victorian Lady: a Biography of Elizabeth Chapman Lawrence* (1983) by Helen Hartman Gemmill. Daughter of Henry Chapman (1804-1891), a Pennsylvania congressman, she was a popular and cosmopolitan woman who, after her marriage, moved in the same circles as Annie Fields and Jewett.

Cora Lyman Shaw (1828-1922) married Gardiner Howland Shaw of Boston (1819-1869). See Back Bay Houses, 23 Commonwealth.

Mr. Richard Hunt ... Mr. Brimmer ... S. W.: The dinner was at the Brimmer's.

Marianne Timmins (1827-1906) was the wife of Martin Brimmer (1829-1896), an American politician and first president of the Museum of Fine Arts, Boston. His New York *Times* obituary (January 16, 1896, p. 5) indicates that he was a graduate of Harvard (1849) and was keenly interested in public affairs.

Richard Hunt probably is American architect, Richard Howland Hunt (1862-1931), but it is possible that the special guest is Mr. Hunt's father, Richard Morris Hunt, (1827 - 31 July 1895), also an American architect.

S. W. is Sarah Wyman Whitman.

Mrs. Bell and Mrs. Pratt and Mrs. George Hale & Miss Agnes Irwin: For Helen Choate Bell, Eliza Pratt and Agnes Irwin, Key to Correspondents.

Mrs. George Hale almost certainly is Ellen Sever

Tebbets Hale, whose second marriage was to Boston attorney George Silsbee Hale (1825-1897). See Back Bay Houses, 5 Exeter and Find a Grave. Ellen Sever (b. 1835) was the widow of Rev. Theodore Tebbets (1831-1863) and sister to Anne and Emily Sever.

Mr. Jefferson: American actor, Joseph Jefferson (1829-1905). See Jefferson to Fields of 27 March 1895.

Cousin Maria and Auntie: Blanchard, in *Sarah Orne Jewett*, mentions a Cousin Maria (p. 36) as residing in Portsmouth, NH. Probably this is Maria Parker Perry Robinson (1817-1912), who is mentioned in other letters as the mother by her first marriage of a childhood friend of Thomas Bailey Aldrich, Captain William Gardner Shackford (1840-1907).

Usually, Auntie is Lucretia Morse Fisk Perry. Key to Correspondents.

Oxford: The Hotel Victoria on Dartmouth Street in Boston was a popular European style hotel.

Miss Wilkins probably was the American author, Mary Eleanor Wilkins (later Freeman, 1852-1930).

Mrs. Delano may have been Mrs. Henry C. Delano, who may have resided at the Hotel Oxford, a residence hotel on Huntington Avenue in Boston. She was connected with the Boston Children's Friend Society. In 1907, her residence was the Hotel Westminster in Boston. Her husband may have been a director and secretary of the Simpson Spring Company. South Easton, MA in 1906.

The manuscript of the letter is held by the University of New England Maine Women Writers Collection: Jewett Correspondence MWWC0196_02_00_130_01.

Sarah Orne Jewett to Mary Rice Jewett

Sunday night.
[*31 March 1895*]*

Dear Mary

I was so glad to get your letter and to know you were all well!! it seemed so long since I came away that I was pleased to get news. How nice that dear Auntie stayed over Sunday, and you and cousin Maria* must have enjoyed her so much. Yesterday was a disagreeable day though it looked so pleasant -- I went over to Boylston Street

[*Page 2*]

early to do an errand and when I got out of the car such a great gust caught my hat & cloak that I thought they would blow away, and I got air enough to last me ever since! Mr. Jefferson* came to breakfast and came before* the [hour *corrected*] and as I was going upstairs, I had a start it sounded so like the little Doctor* and one of his visits. Mr. Jefferson is deaf and had to be talked to by A.F.* in just the same way and his voice

[*Page 3*]

was so like Dr. Holmes's* too. Mrs. Bell* who came later spoke of it too. It quite brought our little doctor back. Mr. Jefferson was as delightful as he could be, full of talk and stories and experiences -- Young Mr. Copeland* from Harvard and Russell Sullivan* were also present and we had a beautiful time -- Lilly Fairchild* was here in the afternoon & Mrs. Deland* and others -- and Dr. Blake* (the <u>ear</u> doctor Blake) whom we like so much came to tea and was most engaging and

[*Page 4*]

friendly and though we had meant to go to the concert we sat by the fire talking instead. This morning there were those [who *corrected*] waked up with a bad cold and very tired (I said she looked pale yesterday --) but remedies of phenacitine* &c were offered and accepted and the fire lighted, so she stayed in bed all day and had a beautiful occasion and received a call from Ida* while I had one earlier from Mr. Beal,* and I can't think of anything else to tell except that I wrote a heap of letters, and read, and we had tea up here on a tray

[*Up the left margin and across the top of page 1*]

and enjoyed it very much. Annie* makes such nice chicken cut into little pieces with a ^plain^ white sauce that has a little mace in it. -- and that was providentially offered. She is doing so well. The breakfast yesterday was as nice as it could be.

[*Up the left margin and across the top of page 2*]

<u>Monday morning</u> I just got a note from Katy* to say that they had just heard of Mr. Coolidge's* sister's death in Paris so she cant come to the Club luncheon.

[*Up the left margin and across the top of page 3*]

I am so sorry. There will only be Mrs. Sears* and Mrs Deland & Martha Silsbee.* Most of <u>us</u> are abroad! but it will be a nice little time

[*Up the left margin of page 4*]

I feel sure -- Good bye S.O.J.

Notes

31 March 1895: This date is based upon the report of the recent death of Louisa Roge Coolidge McKim, which occurred on 30 March 1895.

Auntie ... Cousin Maria: Auntie usually would be Lucretia Fiske Perry. Key to Correspondents. For Cousin Maria, see notes for Sarah to Mary Jewett of 30 March 1895.

Mr. Jefferson: American actor, Joseph Jefferson (1829-1905).

before: Jewett appears to have written "ea" for "early," and then to have written "before" over it.

Dr. Holmes's: Oliver Wendell Holmes, Sr. died on 17 October 1894. See Correspondents.

Mrs. Bell: Probably Helen Choate Bell. See Correspondents.

Mr. Copeland: Charles Townsend Copeland (1860-1952) was a critic and a professor of English at Harvard University.

Russell Sullivan: Thomas Russell Sullivan. See Correspondents.

Lilly Fairchild: Elizabeth (Lily) Nelson Fairchild. See Sally Fairchild in Key to Correspondents.

Mrs. Deland: American author, Margaret Deland (1857-1945).

Dr. Blake: Clarence John Blake (1843-1919) was Professor of Otology (anatomy of the ear) at Harvard University Medical School and the author of several books.

Phenacitine: A common pain and fever reliever beginning in the late 19th century, Phenacitin is no longer used because it is carcinogenic.

Ida: This probably is Ida Gertrude Beal, daughter of James Henry Beal, who married Fields's sister, Louisa Adams, but it could be Ida Agassiz Higginson. See Correspondents.

Mr. Beal: James Henry Beal, spouse of Annie Fields's sister, Louisa Adams Beal. See Correspondents.

Annie: This would appear to be a new employee of Annie Fields.

Katy: Katherine Parkman Coolidge. See Correspondents.

Mr. Coolidge: John Templeman Coolidge (1856-1945). See Katherine Parkman Coolidge in Key to Correspondents. His sister was Louisa Roge Coolidge McKim (1857 - 30 March 1895).

*Silsbe*e: The Clubs in which Jewett participated at various times in her life have not yet been fully identified. In this passage, she seems to refer to the "It" Club. Shana McKenna, Archivist at the Isabella Stewart Gardner Museum says that the "It" club was a lunch club formed by Julia Ward Howe and Isabella Stewart Gardner. Its other members, in addition to Jewett and Margaret Deland, included:

Edith Greenough Wendell (1859-1938), author of *Old Quincy House at Quincy, Massachusetts* and wife of Barrett Wendell (1855-1921), Harvard English professor, lecturer and author.

Katherine Parkman Coolidge (1858-1900). See Correspondents.

Sarah Choate Sears (1858-1935).

Alma Canfield Sterling Porter (1863-), wife of Harvard Medical School professor William Townsend Porter (1862-1949).

Martha Silsbee (1859-1928).

The manuscript of the letter is held by the University of New England Maine Women Writers Collection, MWWC0196_02_00_101_01 item.

Sarah Orne Jewett to Harriet Jackson Lee Morse*

Wednesday evening

[*April 1895*]*

Dear Mrs. Morse how good you are! and how I wish that I could run right round to Marlborough St. and tell you so instead of writing! When I came in this afternoon late and pretty tired, I found this dear package waiting ---- It is just like pine-needles and <u>you</u> made it with a thousand

[*Page 2*]

stitches for me in these winter days. I never can knit any thing for you because I <u>cant knit</u>! My grandmother tried to teach me but I was either too little or too stupid and never could learn. I hope some day and some time I can tell you how much I care for this piece of your

[*Page 3*]

work -- but it makes me feel nearer to you than ever. I think you must have knitted me all up in the stitches because every one seems to pull at my heart a little = <u>dear</u> Mrs. Morse I thank you very much and I am more than ever

Your loving friend
Sarah O. Jewett

[*Page 4*]

Please give my love to Fanny -- I am sure she knew how I would like it!

Notes

Morse: See Frances (Fanny) Rollins Morse in Key to Correspondents.

April 1895: This date has been penciled in another hand. There is no known rationale, and Jewett's reference to winter weather makes the month somewhat problematic, though wintry Maine weather in April is not unknown. Furthermore, there is another letter tentatively assigned to the same year, in which Jewett expresses pride in her new afghan. See Jewett to Morse of Sunday morning, April 1895.

The manuscript of this letter is held by the Houghton Library of Harvard University, Cambridge, MA. bMS Am 1743.1 (123) Box 4, II. Letters from Sarah Orne Jewett.

Sarah Orne Jewett to Harriet Jackson Lee Morse*

148 Charles Street
Sunday morning
[*April 1895*]*

Dear Mrs. Morse

I was so sorry to miss seeing you yesterday -- and [the *corrected*] day before! And I have never heard Plunket Greene* and always quite longed for the pleasure -- but I have promised to go out to Jamaica Plain on Tuesday to see an old friend. It was so kind of you to think of it -- Perhaps

[*Page 2*]

I shall find you tomorrow afternoon, late. With much love (and so so proud of my afghan!)

Your affectionate

Sarah.

Notes

Morse: See Frances Rollins Morse in Key to Correspondents.

1895: This date has been penciled in another hand. A possible rationale could be that Mr. Greene was known to have performed in Boston in 1895, but I have not been able to confirm when he did. In the absence of other evidence, I have accepted this date.

Plunket Greene: Irish baritone, Harry Plunket Greene (1865-1936).

The manuscript of this letter is held by the Houghton Library of Harvard University, Cambridge, MA. bMS Am 1743.1 (123) Box 4, II. Letters from Sarah Orne Jewett.

Sarah Orne Jewett to Harriet Jackson Lee Morse*

Monday

[*April 1895*]*

Dear Mrs. Morse

I <u>cant</u> refuse! And since I find that Mr Plunket Greene's* songs are at the beginning of the programme, and <u>if</u> you wont mind my running away early, I can get to Jamaica Plain in good season for my engagement there. So I say yes with

[*Page 2*]

all the more pleasure [because *corrected*] I said no yesterday with such sorrow!

I hate to think of what you told me = it worries me a good deal but I hope, as you say, there will be no pain to suffer and that you will find a good

[*Page 3*]

deal of comfort in the latter part of your "retreat" -- I begin to look back upon <u>my</u> long retreat almost with regret -- I did have such a good chance to read and to [see *corrected*] my friends or think of them. Things do have their compensations -- (bad things I mean) and I hope that this of yours will

[*Page 4*]

give you many, dear friend.

Your affectionate
S.O.J.

148 Charles Street

Notes

Morse: See Frances (Fanny) Rollins Morse in Key to Correspondents.

1905: This letter follows another to Morse probably on a Sunday in 1895.

Plunket Greene's: Irish baritone, Harry Plunket Greene (1865-1936). Wikipedia.

The manuscript of this letter is held by the

Houghton Library of Harvard University, Cambridge, MA. bMS Am 1743.1 (123) Box 4, II. Letters from Sarah Orne Jewett.

Louise Imogen Guiney to Annie Adams Fields

[*2 April 1895*]

Dear Mrs. Fields:

Thank you so much for sending me that printed matter. May -- I, by your leave, send my dear 'Listener' to see you and Miss Jewett next Saturday? I say 'send', because I fear that I may not be able to get to you until you are on the very brink of dinner; and I should like ^Mr. Chamberlain*^ ~~him~~ to have had a half-hour or so with you before that. What I wished to do was to escort him to you myself! But I know a grim goblin called Quarterly Accounts only too likely to steal most of my afternoon from me, and to leave me only the doubtful glory of carrying him away.

Nevertheless and ever yours,
Louise I. Guiney

Apr. 2nd 1895: Auburndale, Mass.

Notes

Mr. Chamberlain: Mellen Chamberlain. Key to Correspondents.

The manuscript of this letter is held by the Huntington Library, San Marino, CA, in the James T. Fields collection Box 25: mss FI 1608.

Sarah Wyman Whitman to Sarah Orne Jewett Fragment

April 3 (1895?).

The great event of the Library* has come and passed, and still one goes to view the scheme, and see how immense the Sargent decoration is. I shall not talk of it at all until I talk of it with you on the spot, and then we will say great swelling words of pride, and some of criticism too, for some chances are missed, inevitable in such a new departure.

Notes

library: The Boston Public Library opened in 1895. John Singer Sargent's (1856-1925) "Judaism and Christianity" is among the murals that decorate the upper floors. Whitman refers to this work in other letters as well.

This transcription appears in *Letters*, Sarah Wyman Whitman. Cambridge, MA: Riverside Press, 1907, "Letters to Sarah Orne Jewett: 1882-1903," pp. 61-109.

Louise Imogen Guiney to Dora Sigerson* [selection]

5 April 1895

Guiney reports that she is sending along several letters.

The remaining letter was written months ago by Miss Sarah Orne Jewett, one of our best-known American writers, and a most lovely and lovable woman. She noticed your name on the Roadside Harp* blank-leaf, and asked me to lend her your book. I thought it might please you to see what she says; for her praise does not spring thick as weeds, and is truly sincere. She is of Puritan blood, but loves Ireland and Irish things, as her stories show, and once upon a time lived a summer in Kerry* among fisher-folk.

Notes

Sigerson: Dora Maria Sigerson Shorter (1866-1918) was an Irish poet and sculptor. After her 1895 marriage, she published as Dora Sigerson Shorter. The book Jewett wished to borrow from Guiney probably was Sigerson Shorter's *Verses* (1893).

Roadside Harp: Guiney's poetry collection, *A Roadside Harp*, appeared in 1893.

Kerry: By 1895, Jewett had published three stories featuring Irish immigrants in the United States, "The Luck of the Bogans" (1889), "A Little Captive Maid" (1891), and "Between Mass and Vespers" (1893). However, she did not actually spend a summer in Kerry "among fisher-folk."

This passage appears in *Letters of Louise Imogen Guiney* v. 1 (1896) pp. 65-6.

Sarah Orne Jewett to Mary Rice Jewett

Friday morning
[6 April 1895]*

Dear Mary

I started in for a great letter this morning but I had such a big mail that I am no better off than usual for time. I omitted to mention in its proper place that I met Aunt Josie Hoyt* on Clarendon St [day before *corrected*] yesterday and stopped and spoke at length of the present as well as the past. She had a most prosperous air had [Aunt *corrected*] Josie and said that Loulie and

[*Page 2*]

Ella had gone over to see Alice* who was <u>often</u> in danger with a heart trouble. They had landed & written but hadn't seen her at the moment of writing. I wish the galleys still existed for putting such to hard work. I dont believe but what she takes chloral* or something but dont [let *corrected*] your mind rove upon mourning bonnets for Alice yet. Aunt Josie had an air to me of great satisfaction with life ------- and her sinful shape of clay* was protected from the weather with a beautiful sealskin sacque as ever you saw. I never saw her pleasanter or nicer.

[*Page 3*]

Now having written all that{,} I must tell you something funny: Tuesday when I was at Mrs. Bell's we laid a great plot to go out and pass a pleasant afternoon very soon with Mrs. Faulkner* and yesterday <u>she</u> appeared here as if she had come the day before and asked me to a ball along with Mrs. Bell and Anne Sever* on Tuesday next as Miss Ellen Emerson* was going to be there making her a little visit. I wrote right up to Mrs. Bell and offered to call for her with the char-a-banc

[*Page 4*]

of the Rollo books,* but she had already ^~~been~~^ bespoken to go out by train with Anne Sever ^& me^, so you can be thinking of it with us between now & Tuesday{.} It is Mrs. Bell's afternoon at home but she leaves everything!! Yesterday we were going to lunch ^at S. W.'s^ as I told you but didn't and so in the afternoon we went to make a few calls. Everybody was out but Sister Sarah* & I was glad for A. F. came home all tired out, and so did I, but it might have been "something in the air"-- for we both waked up unusual lively this morning. She is

[*Up the left margin and across the top margin of page 1*]

going to the Brimmers to lunch and I would go to Cora's* but their Uncle McKim will just be having his funeral. Tonight I am going to [Mrs. *corrected*] Charles Lorings* to dinner not <u>much</u> coveted. Love to Maria* and all

Sarah.

[*Up the left margin page 2*]

Thank you <u>so</u> much for getting dear Charles* to sign the paper.

Notes

6 April 1895: The envelope associated with this letter was cancelled in Boston on 1 April 1895, addressed to Mary Rice Jewett in South Berwick. However, 1 April 1895 fell on a Monday, and this almost certainly is not the correct envelope for this letter. If the notes below are correct, then the funeral of Cora Rice's uncle would have to occur after 2 April, and the actual date of this letter would then be Saturday 6 April.

Aunt Josie Hoyt: While a Mrs. Josephine M. Hoyt is listed as living in the Boston area at the time of this letter and as a contributor to Boston's Children's Hospital, further information has not been found. This is not a name that has yet been associated with Jewett's family. Hence it is not clear whose aunt she is.

Loulie ... Ella... Alice: For Loulie (Louisa Dresel) and Ella Maria Walworth (Mrs. George Britton) Little, Key to Correspondents. There are many possible "Alices" to whom Jewett may refer. A fairly likely possibility is Ella Little's sister, Alice Drummond Walworth Putnam.

shape of clay: While this phrase sounds biblical or perhaps from a sermon, the only source so far known is Jewett's own story, "The Taking of Captain Ball" (1889).

chloral: Chloral hydrate is a widely used and reasonably safe sedative.

Mrs. Bell's: Helen Choate Bell. Key to Correspondents.

Mrs. Faulkner: It is probable that this is Abby Adams Faulkner (1823-1900), wife of Dr. George Faulkner (1819-1911). Mrs. Faulkner inherited an independent fortune that she used in philanthropy. Her estate helped to establish Boston's Faulkner Hospital, which later merged with other hospitals to form the Brigham and Women's Faulkner Hospital.

Anne Sever: Anne Dana Sever (1828-1896) a long-time resident of the Back Bay in Boston. The daughter of John and Anna Dana Sever, she lived with her sister, Emily (b. 1834) at 376 Marlborough St. Anne and Emily were sisters of Ellen Sever (b. 1835), widow of Rev. Theodore Tebbets (1831-1863), whose second husband was George Silsbee Hale.

Miss Ellen Emerson: Key to Correspondents.

char-a-banc of the Rollo books: A charabanc is a horse-drawn vehicle that once functioned like a modern bus, for urban mass transportation. The

Rollo books comprise a series of stories for young readers by Lyman Abbott. Key to Correspondents.

Sister Sarah: Probably Fields's sister, Sarah Holland Adams. Key to Correspondents.

Brimmers: Marianne Timmins (1827-1906) was the wife of Martin Brimmer (1829-1896), an American politician and first president of the Museum of Fine Arts, Boston. His New York *Times* obituary (January 16, 1896, p. 5) indicates that he was a graduate of Harvard (1849) and was keenly interested in public affairs.

Cora's. Cora Lee Clark Rice. Key to Correspondents. Her husband was Alexander Hamilton Rice. His mother was Augusta Elizabeth McKim. One of her brothers was William Walker McKim (1829-1895), a Civil War veteran, who died in Boston on 2 April 1895.

Establishing William Walker's identity from internet sources has proven complicated at the time of composing this note, so here is gathered the key supporting information discovered to date.

A brief biographical sketch of Augusta Elizabeth McKim (c. 1821-1868). appears at WikiTree:

> Augusta Elizabeth McKim was born in 1821 in Massachusetts, USA, her father, John, was 32, and her mother, Augusta, was 26. She married Alexander Hamilton Rice on 19 August 1845 in Newton, Massachusetts, USA. They had four children in 16 years. She died in 1868 in Jefferson, Louisiana, USA, at the age of 47, and was buried in Cambridge, Massachusetts, USA.

A Civil War Talk forum offers a detailed biographical sketch of William W. McKim by John Hartwell, in which he quotes from *History of the Military Company of the Massachusetts, now called the Ancient and Honorable Artillery Company of Massachusetts, 1637-1888* (Volume 3):

> William W. McKim (1850), merchant, of Boston, son of John and Augusta E. (Porter) McKim, was born in Charlestown, Jan. 2, 1828. He married, Sept. 22, 1853, M. Antoinette Wheelock. He received his education in a private academy at Schenectady, N. Y. At first he entered the wholesale book and stationery business, but in 1857 became superintendent of transportation of an organization formed by the Boston Board of Trade. He was a deputy collector of customs during the last six months of Judge Russell's administration as collector.

During the Civil War, he served in various capacities, mainly as a quartermaster in the Union Army.

> Col. McKim ... was a Freemason, belonging to St. Bernard's Commandery, Knights Templars, of Boston, and was a member of the military order of the Loyal Legion, Department of Massachusetts. He died April 2, 1895.

See also William W. McKim at Find a Grave and *Boston of Today*, pp. 307-8/

Mrs. Charles Lorings: Almost certainly this is Mary Hopkins Loring (1852-1914), spouse of Charles Greely Loring (1828-1902). Jewett was close friends with the family of Mr. Loring's brother, Caleb Loring. See Katharine Peabody Loring in Key to Correspondents.

Maria: For Cousin Maria, see notes for Sarah to Mary Jewett of 30 March 1895.

dear Charles: Probably, this is Charles Ashburton Gilman. Key to Correspondents.

The manuscript of this letter is held by the University of New England Maine Women Writers Collection: Jewett Correspondence MWWC0196_02_00_130_01.

Sarah Orne Jewett to Mary Rice Jewett

Saturday
[*6 April 1895*]*

Dear Mary

A sleepy sister on account of being out late, and waking up as sleepy as she went to bed. She had a very active day yesterday! After I got my letters done in the morning I stepped out to the dentists in company with A. F. who then went to Mrs. Brimmer's* to luncheon and when I got through I also rose the [hill *corrected*] as far as Mrs. Cabot's* who was standing at the

[*Page 2*]

top of the stairs as I went up and after pronouncing an immediate invitation the dear old soul went hurrying off as fast as she could go "I'll send Maud Scott* away; daresay she'll like it" ---- and presently she returned and we sat down as close as possible face to face and I was replete with pleasing subjects for a wonder and so was she and we both held out without intermission except for food and breath until I parted from her at the time of her nap just after lunch. Then I went to Houghton

[*Page 3*]

Mifflin's -- and then I stopped at Mrs. Angell's* but she was out, and then I went to see Ellen & Kate Birckhead and we had a beautiful time. It seems that Lilie Waterbury* is in town at 60 Pinckney Street & wants something to do --

Then I went down to Mrs. Morse's* in a cab but she had gone to the concert. I think this afghan had better remain in town dont you Mary? --- after I came home I hung about until it was time to go to the Lorings to dinner{.} Mr. Abbey* the painter and his wife were the occasion of it, but poor

[*Page 4*]

Mrs. Abbey had such an awful cold that it was a pain to look [at *corrected*] her. Ellen was there and Mrs. Bell* and others and it was pleasant but I haven't had such a good time all winter at a [feast *?*] as I did at the Brimmers the other night -- Mr. Abbey is an interesting little man. I wonder why so many artists are little!!! He has come to put up his Public Library pictures and [they *corrected from* there] are staying at the Fairchilds.* Mr. Sargent* is going to sail today. It will be nice to see [*deleted word*] "see" him again. I am sure it is a great bother but

[*Up the left margin and across the top margin of page 1*]

I think Carrie* will be ever so glad when she gets the room done over with a pretty light paper and all. I can send down some papers on Monday or Tuesday if she would like to have me -- I have an idea that a pretty one with little flowers might be had, but I dont know that

[*Up the left margin and across the top margin of page 2*]

those would look as well with heavy furniture, anyway I'll look and then you needn't keep them if you dont like them. Wont it be nice if Eva* comes.

[*Up the left margin and across the top margin of page 3*]

I think perhaps it will be as well to leave that money in the Iowa Loan & Trust Co.* I cant remember just how much I have got there now. You might see about Judge Doe's man.* Tell me if

[*Up the left margin and across the top margin of page 3*]

you remember [where *intending* whether *?*] this was six per cent or five{.} If it were five I shouldn't hesitate a minute. Love to Cousin Maria* and all. I suppose you will have a gentleman to tea tomorrow night. When is Thider coming up? With love Sarah

Notes

6 April 1895: The envelope associated with this letter in the MWWC folder bears this Boston cancellation date. 6 April fell on a Saturday in 1895.

On the back of the envelope, Jewett has written: Helen said the 14th {.} She is likely to refer to Helen Merriman. Key to Correspondents.

Mrs. Brimmer's: Marianne Timmins (1827-1906) was the wife of Martin Brimmer (1829-1896).

Mrs. Cabot's: Susan Burley Cabot. Key to Correspondents.

Maud Scott: Miss Maud Scott is listed as a resident at the Bellevue Hotel in *Clark's Boston Blue Book* (1895), p. 84. Other letters indicate she is available for typing manuscripts and sometimes provides this service to Jewett. No more about her has been discovered.

Mrs. Angell's: This is likely to be Eliza A. Martin Angell, wife of American philanthropist and activist for the humane treatment of animals, George Thorndike Angell (1823-1909).

Ellen & Kate Birckhead ... Lilie Waterbury: For Ellen Mason and Kate Birckhead, Key to Correspondents.

Lilie Waterbury was one of Jewett's earliest correspondents, listed in her diary of 1871.

Mrs. Morse's: Frances (Fanny) Morse. Key to Correspondents. See Jewett to Morse of Sunday morning, April 1895. It is likely Mrs. Morse attended the Friday 5 April matinee performance of the Boston Symphony Orchestra.

Lorings ... Mr. Abbey: The Lorings probably are Katherine Peabody and Louisa Putnam Loring.

Edwin Austin Abbey (1852-1911) started as an illustrator of books and magazines but became internationally known as a painter of historical and literary murals. Essentially a portrayer of happy moods, he specialized in scenes of delicate lyrical sentiment. (Cary)

Jewett reviewed Abbey's *Old English Songs* in *The Book Buyer* 5,11 (Dec 1, 1888), pp. 466-8.

Mrs. Bell: Helen Choate Bell. Key to Correspondents.

the Fairchilds: Probably the parents of Sally Fairchild. Key to Correspondents.

Mr. Sargent: American artist, John Singer Sargent (1856-1925).

Carrie: Carrie Jewett Eastman.

Eva: Baroness Eva von Blomberg. Key to Correspondents.

Iowa Loan & Trust Co.: A major Iowa bank in the 19th Century.

Judge Doe's man: Richard Cary says:

> The Honorable Charles Doe (1830-1896), appointed associate justice of the Supreme Court of New Hampshire at 29, retained his rustic clothes and manners during sessions. A raconteur of uncommon facility, he punctuated his stories with earth-born phrases and laconic flashes of philosophic insight. Behind his rugged humors lay a vast kindliness and tolerance.
>
> His wife, Edith Haven Doe (1840-1922), formerly of Portsmouth, was the daughter of Mr. George Wallis Haven, and the stepsister of Georgia Halliburton. Of superior intelligence and engaging personality, she was renowned as a helpmeet and hostess. The Doe home at Rollinsford NH, a frequent anchorage for the Jewett sisters, was about a mile from their own.

Key to Correspondents.

Cousin Maria: For Cousin Maria, see notes for Sarah to Mary Jewett of 30 March 1895.

The manuscript of the letter is held by the University of New England Maine Women Writers Collection: Jewett Correspondence MWWC0196_02_00_093_01.

Sarah Orne Jewett to Arthur Griffin Stedman

148 Charles Street
11 April 1895

Dear Mr. Stedman

I shall send you a little story.* You may count upon it by the twenty-fourth and sooner if I can get it in order. I am so glad that you do not ask me for a long one!

Yours sincerely

S. O. Jewett

Notes

story: Jewett evidently promised to provide Stedman with a story for the Bachellor Syndicate for which he acted as agent. Jewett had already submitted "A Dark Night" to Stedman in February. Three more of her stories were syndicated in 1895: "Little French Mary," which first appeared in June, "The Night before Thanksgiving" in November, and "An Empty Purse" in December.

The manuscript of this letter is held by the Columbia University (New York) Library in Special Collections, Jewett. Transcription from a microfilm copy

---

Anna Eliot Ticknor to Sarah Orne Jewett

April 14
[*1895*]*
[*Begin letterhead*]
41 Marlborough Street
[*End letterhead*]

My dear Sarah

I shall be very much pleased to see Mr Howe,* under your protecting wing, tomorrow afternoon at 5, (or about) and I cannot allow myself to be [put *?*] off, by your orders, from writing to tell you that I [count *corrected*] on your coming. I saw Mr.

[*Page 2*]

Howe at Mrs Fields one Saturday afternoon but had no conversation with him; and I have once or twice thought of this with regret, -- so I am pleased that he should be inspired with the wish to come here. We will show him Sir Walter* -- wont we?

À demain.*
Your affectionate

Anna E. Ticknor

Notes

1895: The date is supported by another letter 14 April from Jewett to Mark DeWolfe Howe regarding this visit, which seems to have taken place on Tuesday 15 April. This sequence of days occurred only in 1895 between the opening year of the Jewett-Howe correspondence -- believed to be 1891 -- and Ticknor's death in 1896.

Mr Howe: Mark Antony DeWolfe Howe. Key to Correspondents.

Sir Walter: Scottish author, Sir Walter Scott (1771-1832). Upon her death in 1896, Ticknor bequeathed to the Boston Museum of Fine Arts an oil portrait of Sir Walter Scott by Charles R. Leslie, (1824) painted at Scott's Abbotsford home at the request of George Ticknor, Anna Ticknor's father.

À demain: French: Until tomorrow.

The manuscript of this letter is held by the Houghton Library of Harvard University in Mark Antony De Wolfe Howe additional papers, 1880-1959. MS Am 1524 (774). Jewett, Sarah Orne,

1849-1909. 16 letters from; 1891-1903.

Sarah Orne Jewett to Mark Antony DeWolfe Howe

148 Charles Street
Monday.
[*14 April 1895*]*

[*Begin deleted letterhead*]
South Berwick, Maine
[*End deleted letterhead*]

Dear Mr. Howe

Miss Ticknor* will be very glad to see you at five o'clock or thereabout, and I am going to ask you to be so kind as to come for me at Mrs. Whitman's Studio 184 Boylston St. just before five, and we

[*Page 2*]

can go on from there to Mifs Ticknor's.

Yours sincerely
S. O. Jewett

Notes

14 April 1895: See Ticknor to Jewett of 14 April 1895 regarding this visit, which seems to have taken place on Tuesday 15 April.

Miss Ticknor: Anna Eliot Ticknor. Key to Correspondents.

The manuscript of this letter is held by the Houghton Library of Harvard University in Mark Antony De Wolfe Howe additional papers, 1880-1959. MS Am 1524 (774). Jewett, Sarah Orne, 1849-1909. 16 letters from; 1891-1903.

Sarah Orne Jewett to Miss A. O. Huntington

148 Charles Street
Boston, 15 April 1895

[*Begin letterhead*]
South Berwick, Maine
[*End letterhead*]

My dear Miss Huntington,

I am very sorry that your first letter to me should have been lost or overlooked{.} I thank you for this second letter, which gives me much pleasure.

I am very glad that you like Deephaven and that your friend likes it too* and I send this little page* which I have just copied for you to give to her

[*Page 2*]

as you say that you should like to do. As for the characters Miss Chauncey is the only one who was a real person, and I made the first visit to her one afternoon just as I have described. Very little of that chapter is imaginary ^ (or of the chapter called "In Shadow").^ I do not like the picture of her because I remember her much more ghostly and not such a brisk and determined person as the artist drew.* This Miss Chauncey looks much too

[*Page 3**]

aggressive while the real one was most appealing and a little bewildered as you may imagine. However I like all the rest of the pictures so very much that I ought not to find fault with Miss Chauncey!

With kindest wishes and message of thanks to Miss Dole* for carrying word to you.

I am ever Yours sincerely
Sarah O. Jewett

Notes

Huntington: Annie Oakes Huntington (1875-1940) was the author of books and articles on trees of New England. See Correspondents. Her acquaintance with Jewett has not yet been documented. It is clear from this letter that Huntington wrote to Jewett about *Deephaven*, when Huntington was about 20 years old. In the book of her letters published after her death, *Testament of Happiness*, she speaks briefly of meeting and socializing with Jewett in 1901. It is possible that they met in 1895 or at some time before 1901. One opportunity was when Huntington stayed with Ellen Louise Tileston (Mrs. Charles P.) Hemenway, (1836-1914) the recently widowed philanthropist, August 12-19, 1895. Ellen Tileston Hemenway was both sister and sister-in-law to Mary Porter Tileston (Mrs. Augustus) Hemenway (1820-1894). Both women were neighbors of Annie Fields in Boston and in Manchester by the Sea. Fields was acquainted with Mary Hemenway as early as 1886, mentioning her in an August 18, 1886 letter.

your friend: It is possible that this friend was Jeannette Payson, Huntington's life-long companion. Their life together is documented in *Testament of Happiness*.

little page: With the manuscript is an autographed page on the same letterhead. The passage Jewett has copied is from the final paragraph of

the 1893 edition:

> -- I wonder if some day Kate Lancaster and I may not go down to Deephaven for the sake of old times and read the epitaphs in the burying ground, look out to sea and talk quietly about the girls who were so happy there, one summer long before. I should like to walk along the beach at sunset, ------"

Jewett has made small changes in punctuation. Though she closes with a quotation mark, there is no parallel opening mark.

the artist drew: Dawn Helser points out that the drawing of Miss Chauncey is by Marcia Oakes Woodbury (1865-1913). Key to Correspondents.

Born like Jewett in South Berwick, Maine, Woodbury studied painting in New York and Paris. Her paintings, "Triptych" and "Mother and Daughter," belong to the Boston Museum of Fine Arts. She and her husband, Charles H. Woodbury (1864-1940), also an artist, designed illustrations for a Holiday Edition of *Deephaven* that appeared in 1893 (Cary, *Sarah Orne Jewett Letters*, p. 85). A note in the Old Berwick Historical Society edition (XIV-XVI) indicates that Marcia Woodbury was responsible for the drawing of Miss Chauncey, which appears on p. 271.

Page 3: On this page Jewett has turned the paper, so that her lines are at right angles to the facing page 2.

Miss Dole: This person has not been identified. Perhaps Jewett meant Edith Bell Haven Doe. Key to Correspondents.

The manuscript of this letter is held by the Small Library, University of Virginia, Special Collections MSS 6218, Sarah Orne Jewett Papers. A transcription appears in Annie Fields, *Letters of Sarah Orne Jewett* (1911). New transcription and notes.

Annie Fields Transcription

My dear Miss Huntington, -- I am very sorry that your first letter to me should have been lost or overlooked. I thank you for this second letter, which gives me much pleasure.

I am very glad that you like "Deephaven" and that your friend likes it too, and I send this little page which I have just copied for you to give to her, as you say that you should like to do. As for the characters, Miss Chauncey is the only one who was a real person, and I made the first visit to her one afternoon just as I have described. Very little of that chapter is imaginary (or of the chapter called "In Shadow"). I do not like the picture of her, because I remember her much more ghostly and not such a brisk and determined person as the artist drew. This Miss Chauncey looks much too aggressive, while the real one was most appealing and a little bewildered as you may imagine. However, I like all the rest of the pictures so very much that I ought not to find fault with Miss Chauncey!

Louise Imogen Guiney to Annie Adams Fields and Sarah Orne Jewett

[*28 April 1895*]*

On the Cephalonia.* 44º no. lat.

Dearest Mrs. Fields and Miss Jewett. I take my pen in hand in sight of the green shore of mine ancestral isle, not to thank you for one of the most beautiful surprises that ever happened to me; for I couldn't do it rightly if I tried. You are altogether too good and kind and providing! and you never tire of experimenting on me to see how much pleasure the human organism can endure. Besides, the morning we sailed, there failed to come into my little P.O. a cheque due, which was desideratissimus; and I retrieved my fortune out of your gift, and swaggered before Olympus.* Wherever

2

we go, I carry your colors on my heart. Alice* wishes to fly directly to Knutsford in Cheshire (which is 'Cranford')* with fell intent on an article for the good gentleman we privately refer to as 'Uncle Scuddie.'* While she plods about the ancient pasture sacred to Betty Barker's flannelled cow, I shall loaf and lunch, and spread into a Kentucky Giantess.* I had a very bad time coming over with sickness and seasickness of diverse kinds and degrees. It was altogether absurd, for a Charles River canoe at Riverside never knew smoother water than this summer-like Atlantic. I have been on deck

3

for three good days, however, with an orthodox temperature, and a clear head, and a gull's appetite. We do not intend getting to London until it begins to be dull and quiet at five o'clock. But Brown Shipley & Co.* will care for our letters until then. Our Captain here is all indulgence to us, chiefly, I think, because I love to pore over his big Devon charts.* A little sailor was passing yesterday when some gentlemen were talking of the crew's selfish behavior on the Elbe.* "Aye," he

said, "our Cap'n wasn't aboard her: that's plain. Wouldn't he a-shot 'em down beautiful!" This with immense pride.

4

The concert came off Saturday night. I did not divulge what I know about Quaternions,* nor did Alice contribute a horn-pipe. There is a lonesome little steerage dog in the hold, who makes me homesick for my Fine Gentleman. When I left my mother, she had eight St. Bernard foster-children rolling over her foot, very young indeed, and unco' bonnie.* As you go down Charles St., please say 'Du verfluchtes!'* to the subway for me. Will dear little Crabby go with you to Martinsville?* Love to you, and the faithful remembrance of your

Louise Guiney
Sunday, April somethingth.

Notes

1895: As the notes below indicate, the *SS Cephalonia* had arrived in Dublin, Ireland by 30 April of 1895. Guiney dates her letter on Sunday and says the coast of Ireland is in view.

Cephalonia: The Cunard line *SS Cephalonia* was in service from 1882 to 1900.

The ship out of Boston, MA, arrived in Dublin, Ireland, by 30 April 1895, according to the New York Times of 30 April 1895, p. 5.

Olympus: Home of the gods in ancient Greek mythology.

Alice: American author, Alice Brown (1857-1948). She and Guiney traveled to England together in 1895.

Knutsford ... 'Cranford': Guiney makes several references to Elizabeth Gaskell's (1810-1865) novel, *Cranford* (1853), in particular to the adventures of Betty Barker's cow, which had the misfortune of falling into a lime pit and losing its hair. Barker then sews flannel "pyjamas" to cover the cow's nakedness.

*Uncle Scuddi*e: Horace Scudder. Key to Correspondents.

Brown's essay, "Latter-Day Cranford" appeared in *Atlantic Monthly* 77 (Apr. 1896), 526-534. See Margaret Ann Baker, "Alice Brown: A Bibliography of Books and Uncollected Prose," *American Literary Realism* 17, No. 1 (Spring, 1984), 99-115.

Kentucky Giantess: Guiney refers to a character in "The Circus at Denby," part 8 of Jewett's *Deephaven* (1877)

Brown Shipley & Co.: Brown, Shipley & Co. was a private London bank that handled mail for American travelers in Europe.

Devon charts: Though this is not certain, it appears that Guiney has enjoyed studying sailing charts of England's southern coast, along Devonshire.

the Elbe: The *SS Elbe*, a transatlantic passenger liner of the Norddeutscher Lloyd line out of Bremerhaven, Germany, foundered after a collision in a stormy North Sea in January 1895, with the loss of nearly all passengers and crew.

Quaternions: This transcription is uncertain; it appears that Guiney refers to a mathematical number system first described by the Irish mathematician, William Rowan Hamilton in 1843. Presumably explaining this would have been her contribution to a shipboard talent show had she been called upon to perform.

unco' bonnie: Scots: very pretty.

Du verfluchtes!: German: Curse you! According to MBTA History, the Boston subway, first in the United States, opened in 1897-8. However construction began in 1895, when major work took place at the corners of Charles and Boylston Streets.

Crabby ... Martinsville: Crabby, a Jewett family dog, along with Jewett and Fields spent part of September 1895 in Martinsville, ME.

The manuscript of this letter is held by the Huntington Library, San Marino, CA, in the James T. Fields collection Box 25: mss FI 1456 .

Jeannette Leonard Gilder to Sarah Orne Jewett

[*Begin letterhead*]

MISS GILDER'S
SYNDICATE
287 FOURTH AVE.
NEW YORK.
Agencies in
London and
Paris

[*End letterhead*]

May '2d -- 95

Dear Miss Jewett,

I can sell your story, "A Change of Heart,"* to the Ladies Home Journal for $200. less my commission, 20 percent., ($40.) provided you will send them a good photograph of yourself to use with it. This means cash down which {is} always an advantage. The syndicate business is slow in

summer and I find

[1 *circled*]

2
[*also on letterhead*]

the papers pretty well laded and those I spoke to about the story could not look at it. There are about 3000 words in the story, perhaps a few more. I didn't count every word.

Your early reply will be a favor.

Faithfully yours
Jeannette L. Gilder

[*What appears to be a dot circled*]

Notes

heart: Jewett's "A Change of Heart" appeared in *Ladies Home Journal* in April 1896.

The manuscript of this letter is held by the Houghton Library of Harvard University: Sarah Orne Jewett Correspondence I, Letters to Sarah Orne Jewett. Gilder, Jeannette Leonard, 1849-1916. 4 letters; 1895-1900, 1895-1900. (79). This transcription is from a photocopy held by the Maine Women Writer's Collection, University of New England, Letters from Sarah Orne Jewett, 1875-1890, Box 2, Folder 99, Burton Trafton Jewett Research Collection.

Sarah Orne Jewett to Robert Collyer

Thursday May 2nd
[*1895*]*

[*Begin letterhead*]
South Berwick, Maine
[*End letterhead*]

My dear friend

I am so grieved by the sad news in your letter which Annie has sent to me. So dear 'Aunt Martha'* has gone and left you -- gone into the world of light!* I wish I could have seen her again but we were disappointed about our spring visit to you this year. I have been thinking about you

[*Page 2*]

both, of late and our luncheon with you last year and other years and those happy times together. What a dear kind soul, and what loving kindness and pleasure in other peoples pleasure shone out of her eyes! I had such a good time with her when I saw her ^last year^ because I had been to your dear Yorkshire country* and hers, and we could talk about things together and feel nearer to

[*Page 3*]

each other.

I am afraid you are going to be very lonely without your sister my dear friend -- the young people dont remember things that we remember, but they do give us a bright forward-looking happiness and companionship and it is lovely to think how one after another they come to stand along side, as the other friends disappear from sight.

You will have the Great Comfort, and those who are wiser than we help us to bear what we

[*Page 4*]

could never bear alone.

Please give my kind love to Mrs. Eastman and your son* and do not forget that I am most gratefully and affectionately your friend

Sarah O. Jewett

Shall not you be coming this way this summer? Berwick way I mean. Annie Fields is going to be here a good deal with us, and we should be so glad to see you.

Notes

1895: This date is supported by the letter's reference to the recent death of Martha Merritt, which took place in April 1895. May 2 fell on a Thursday that year.

In the folder with this letter at MWWC is an envelope addressed to Collyer in New York City. The cancellation date is not readable.

Aunt Martha: Martha Collyer Merritt (c 1830 - 26 April 1895) was Rev. Collyer's sister.

world of light: Henry Vaughan (1622-1695) was a Welsh mystical poet who wrote in English. "They are all gone into a world of Light!" appears in *Silex Scintilans* (1655), which begins, "They are all gone into a world of light! / And I alone sit lingering here; / Their very memory is fair and bright, / And my sad thoughts doth clear."

Yorkshire country: Jewett and Fields visited in Yorkshire UK during their 1892 trip to Europe.

Mrs. Eastman and your son: Mrs. Eastman is Harriet Norman Collyer Eastman (1857-1903), Rev. Collyer's daughter. His family tree at Geneanet lists two sons, Samuel (1849-) whom Collyer's biography places in Portland, OR. His younger son, Robert / Robin (1862-) with his wife, Gertrude Savage, lived nearer to Collyer and, as he aged, helped to keep his house.

The manuscript of this letter is held by the University of New England Maine Women Writers Collection, Sarah Orne Jewett Correspondence Box 3 Folder 154.

Sarah Orne Jewett to Robert Underwood Johnson

Manchester, Massachusetts
6 May 1895

My dear Friend

I directed this big envelope of the sketch to you before I thought, but you will please let it go the way of stories sent by rash young writers and get your readers unprejudiced verdict. It is a far cry to the April or May numbers

[*Page 2*]

of [next *corrected*] year -- but this sketch seemed to me to keep a touch of this year's spring feeling -- not to speak of last year's when I did the first writing on it.

It seems a long time since I saw you and the little lady -- and Mrs. Fields and I missed our Spring visit to New York. I had a long winter of

[*Page 3*]

illness, and I am just beginning to put myself down to work again. Mrs. Fields has not been well lately either, and left town early so that I have come over to the shore for an early holiday. We send messages from early song sparrows as well as ourselves!

Yours ever affectionately
S. O. Jewett

Notes

sketch: Jewett's next story after this letter to appear in *Century Magazine* was "All My Sad Captains." However, that story seems to have little to do with spring. Her next published story to fit this description seems to be "The First Sunday in June" in *The Independent* of 4 November 1897.

This manuscript is held by the Harry Ransom Humanities Research Center, University of Texas at Austin. MS Johnson, RU Recip. Jewett, Sarah Orne, 4 ALS to Robert Underwood Johnson.

Sarah Orne Jewett to Robert Underwood Johnson

Manchester, Mass --
8 May 1895

Dear Mr. Underwood-Johnson

Could you tell me when the Sad Captains* are likely to come along in the magazine? I was at Houghton & Mifflin yesterday making plans for a new book of stories, and I remembered that I should want that to make up my list. If it is to be printed by September

[*Page 2*]

it will be all right, but I should like to know.

It is lovely weather -- like summer here by the sea. Last night I was remembering the night you were here with Mr. Muir.* I always like to remember that visit! Yours

[*Page 3*]

most sincerely

S. Orne-Jewett*

Notes

Sad Captains: Jewett's story, "All My Sad Captains," appeared in *Century* in September 1895. *Century Magazine* had accepted the story in about February 1893. It was collected in *The Life of Nancy* (1895).

This manuscript contains a penciled annotation at the top right of page 1: probably the initials UJ.

Mr. Muir: Robert Underwood Johnson was a friend of Scottish-born American naturalist and author, John Muir (1838-1914), encouraging him to write for *Century Magazine.* For Johnson, see Correspondents.

Orne-Jewett: The is the only known instance of Jewett signing a letter in this manner. It seems whimsical, like her hyphenation of Johnson's middle and last name in the salutation. One may speculate that Jewett wanted to lighten the tone of a letter that might seem to be complaining about the long gap between the acceptance and publication of her story and pressing for a little speed.

The manuscript of this letter is held by the New York Public Library, Century Company records 1870-1930s [bulk 1886-1918], Series 1, General Correspondence 1870-1930, b. 51, Jewett, Sarah Orne 1889-1901.

Sarah Orne Jewett to Annie Adams Fields
Fragment

[*Late spring 1895*]*
Friday afternoon

Dear Fuffy*

It was perfectly beautiful yesterday driving down to Kittery-Point -- coming home we heard the thrushes for the first time and the farms were growing green and the river shining in the sun. I wish you had been with me. Indeed there isnt another such bit of country in the world -- As for the sea, it was as blue as it was the last day we went to Manchester

[*Page 2*]

and ~~we~~ ^Mary & I^ walked down to the beach with the boys* and found "wreckwood" enough for the summer's fires -- All the coasters go very near and they are always losing laths and boards overboard and sticks of wood as they come up from the lumber mills down toward the Provinces* -- [ ) *inserted apparently in pencil*] To-day we are planting -- and I have been so sunburnt that I shall not grow to look like a white person again until late in the fall.

[*Page 3*]

[(*inserted apparently in pencil, presumably by another hand*] I don't have enough poppy seed -- and I am going to write [to Farquhar's *corrected*]* this afternoon{.} So many things were winter killed [that *corrected*] we are [quite grieved *corrected*] to the heart. I have been thinking that you will never know about the weeding at Manchester [unless *corrected*] I am there to say where the seeds are. I am important to the well being of two gardens this summer -- [ ) *drawn through* summer] I keep thinking of the paints but I have been too tired and unsettled

[*Page 4*]

ever since I came home even to finish the Christmas story which ought to be in Mrs. Dodge's hands* this minute -- that is the cheque ought to be in mine. I dont hear from the Wide-Awake yet -- but Pinny to be good and not grumble.

Oh I must tell you one beautiful thing we did, yesterday -- we went down to Miss Anne Rice's house* by the river just opposite Portsmouth where we used

[33 *in another hand, circled in bottom left corner of page 4. The letter ends here, without a signature.*]

[*Up the left margin of page 1; whether the parentheses are in Jewett's hand is not certain.*]

(Have you thought of sending a circular to Mr. Mifflin? 85 Marlborough?)*

Notes

Late spring 1895: If Jewett was indeed preparing "Betty Leicester's English Christmas" for publication in *St. Nicholas*, this letter would have been written in 1895. See notes below.

Fuffy: Fuffy has been scratched over in pencil, presumably by another hand.

Mary ...the boys: Mary Rice Jewett. One of the boys almost certainly is Theodore Jewett Eastman, their nephew, but the identities of any others are not yet known. Key to Correspondents.

the Provinces: The Maritime Provinces of Eastern Canada, north and east of Maine.

Farquhar's: R. & J. Farquhar Company of Boston, MA sold seeds and gardening supplies by mail order. The company was founded Robert Farquhar (1848-1934), who came to the United States from Scotland about 1865. The catalog business operated from at least 1894 until 1934.

Christmas story: Mary Mapes Dodge (1831-1905) was editor of *St. Nicholas* magazine. The only Christmas story Jewett published there was "Betty Leicester's English Christmas" (December1895 - February 1896).

Wide-Awake: These circumstances are obscure. The final story Jewett placed with *Wide Awake* magazine was "Peg's Little Chair" (August 1891). Perhaps she was still awaiting payment four years later, or perhaps a new submission was not accepted, or perhaps she refers to quite different events.

Miss Anne Rice's house: In *Sarah Orne Jewett* (1994), Paula Blanchard identifies Anne Rice as an elderly relative of Jewett, heiress to a wonderful house that became the setting for Jewett's story, "Lady Ferry" (1879) . Blanchard says that Miss Rice owned a fearsome dog (pp. 39-40).

85 Marlborough: George Harrison Mifflin and his wife, Jane Appleton (Phillips) Mifflin, resided at 85 Marlborough Street in Boston, MA after 1878. The purpose of the circular remains unknown. Key to Correspondents.

The manuscript of this letter is held by the Houghton Library, Harvard University, Cambridge, Mass. Jewett, Sarah Orne, 1849-1909. 40 letters

to Annie (Adams) Fields (no date). Sarah Orne Jewett additional correspondence, 1868-1930. MS Am 1743.1 (117).

Sarah Orne Jewett to Fred Holland Day*

Manchester Mass tts
10 May
[*1895*]*

Dear Mr. Day

I send you a cheque to which I have added the price of Atalanta as it seemed to save trouble. I shall ask you to send it to Mrs. Fields for the sixth of June,* but I cannot tell just yet whether she will be here.

Yours very kindly
S. O. Jewett

Notes

1895: See Jewett to Day of 2 July 1895.

sixth of June: Fields's birthday.

Atalanta: Jewett's 2 July 1895 letter to Day indicates that she has recently purchased a copy of Algernon Charles Swinburne, *Atalanta in Calydon* (1865).

The manuscript of this letter is held by the University of Wisconsin-Madison Libraries, Department of Rare Books and Special Collections; Cairns Collection of American Women Writers, Comprehensive collection of works by Sarah Orne Jewett.

Sarah Orne Jewett to Lilian Woodman and Thomas Bailey Aldrich

10 May [*1895*]
[*Begin letterhead*]
South Berwick, Maine
[*End letterhead*]

Dear Lilian and T.B.

Are you really and truly at home again and can anybody believe the newspapers? At any rate I send you both the warmest and most sincere welcomes [partly *corrected*] because I have quite grudged your being away so long and so far, and mostly because it is so delightful to have you back. I hope

[*Page 2*]

to see you very soon, but I have had a bad winter with illness enough for a dozen, and I am still tied by one foot or to be definite, one shoulder.

-- Good-by: I hope you are all well, and please give my kindest remembrances to Mr. & Mrs. Richardson*

Yours affectionately
S. O. J.

This is the usual quotation to T.B. & not to be forgotten now! "Nobody loves you"*

Notes

1895: It seems probable that this letter was written after the Aldriches became neighbors to the Richardsons upon occupying their summer home in Tenants Harbor, ME in 1894. The Aldriches traveled around the world, visiting in the Orient, India and Egypt in the winter of 1894-5, returning in May 1895. They made a similar trip again in 1899, but returned later, in June of that year. See Greenslet, *The Life of Thomas Bailey Aldrich*.

Richardson: According to George Carey's "The Rise and Fall of Elmore,"

> +William Richardson, known to his intimates as 'Will Dear' ...had made a small fortune when he invented the clothing snap, the popular forerunner of the zipper, and with some of his money he built Seawoods [in Tenant's Harbor, ME], a 13-room house that faced the ocean. Richardson's sister-in-law married Thomas Bailey Aldrich, the editor of *The Atlantic Monthly*, and soon his large rambling cottage, The Crags just to the north of Seawoods, was drawing to Elmore such literary luminaries as Mark Twain and Sarah Orne Jewett.

Unfortunately, little additional or corroborating information has been discovered.

Nobody loves you: Jewett's intention here seems unclear.

The manuscript of this letter is held by the Houghton Library, Harvard University, Cambridge, Mass. Thomas Bailey Aldrich Papers, 119 letters of Thomas Bailey and Lilian Woodman Aldrich, 1837-1926. MS Am 1429 (117).

Sarah Orne Jewett to Annie Adams Fields

South Berwick
22 May 1895

(Dearest Annie

I shall have to let your own poems* make most of my letter this morning but there is plenty of time to tell you that I had a nice long day out of doors yesterday and an excellent and rewarding day at Lebanon. We had a picnic in the most charming

little green glade in the woods on the way up and "Becca"* seemed to be much* better for the holiday.) There are so

[*Page 2*]

many little things that I should like to tell you -- how we saw Laurel growing, (the nearest place to this that I know) and how green the young birches looked and such a lovely old lean to house that we came to with green turf spread wide about it and a big elm and a big gray barn and all so pleasant, and a superb view of the New Hampshire hills -- I dont know where I had rather spend a month right now. Farm to let was

[*Page 3*]

painted up on the bars. You would have thought it an exquisite place. ----- If it were furnished {.} What a place for somebody to step into but I suppose it was pretty empty & dreary inside -- It was a couple of miles from Great Falls up the longest sandy hill road but oh such a place when you got to it !! I [wish *corrected*] I knew the right people to recommend it to -- (Like the

[*Page 4*]

Ross Turners* for instance who want to turn out their children on the grass.

The teachers* are expected tomorrow -- we are to house five, Mary and I. I didn't get your yesterday's letter and today you are in town darling and I hope it will be a good day. I wish I were there when you get home to the hill,* but you must find a bit of love in the letter --

from your) Pin.

Notes

(Dearest: The parentheses around this part of the letter were penciled in by Fields.

poems: Fields's *The Singing Shepherd* was published in 1895.

"Becca": Rebecca Young. Key to Correspondents.

much: The "m" appears to be underlined; perhaps Jewett intended to underline the whole word.

(Like: This and the remaining parenthesis marks in this letter were penciled by Fields.

Ross Turners: Ross Sterling Turner (1847-1914) "was a painter, watercolorist, and illustrator, active in the Boston area, known for his landscapes and floral subjects." He was a teacher of Celia Thaxter.

teachers: While it seems likely that a somewhat large teachers' conference was held in South Berwick near this time, this has not been confirmed.

the hill: Probably Thunderbolt Hill, the location of the Fields summer cottage in Manchester by the Sea. MA.

The manuscript of this letter is held by the Houghton Library of Harvard University. Jewett, Sarah Orne, 1849-1909. Annie Fields (Adams) 1834-1915, recipient. 194 letters; 1877-1909 & [n.d.] Sarah Orne Jewett correspondence, 1861-1930. MS Am 1743 (255).

George W. Emery to Sarah Orne Jewett

Sea-View
Marshfield,
Plymouth Co.
Mass.

May 24, / 95.

Miss Jewett:

I have just ^been^ reading "Decoration Day"* at Barlow -- Barlow I take to be another name for So. Berwick and any^thing^ pertaining to Berwick greatly interests me, for my Ancestors* from six generations lived, died and are buried within the sound of S. Berwick Village Bells --

My Grandfather always called So Berwick "Quampeagan." Two of my Ancestors Anthony and James Emeris acknowledged themselves with 39 others then living in Kittery as subjects of the Government of Mass. Bay in 1652 -- In my boyhood I spent several years in Berwick and I remem-

[*Page 2*]

ber Old D^{r}. Trafton and D^{r}. Jewett* well. So. Berwick then was quite an Aristocratic Old Village, and there { were } quite a number of fine specimens of Old School Gentlemen, whom I well remember. That part of the State of Maine saw the beginning of the first American Civilization and will bear a great deal of writing up. I thank you very much for all you have done in that direction -- I think we have some friends and acquaintances in common. Horatio N. Twombley, Mrs. Harvey of your place and Miss. Pen. Noyes of North Berwick. I mention them as my apology for sending this, and suggesting that you have by no means worn out your subject among your readers, I sincerely hope you will continue to give the Reading Public anything that may suggest itself to you relative to So. Berwick or York County, past or present --

[*Page 3*]

I send this simply to thank you ^for^ bringing to Public attention an Old Town and People, dear to me, and calling up pleasant recollections of both, after an absence of nearly fifty years -- Trusting I have no way offended by thus intruding on your attention -- I am very respectfully,

Geo. W. Emery

Notes

George W. Emery: The precise identity of this George W. Emery is uncertain.

"Decoration Day": Jewett's story, set in Barlow, first appeared in *Harper's Magazine* in June 1892 and was collected in *A Native of Winby* 1893.

Ancestors: While Emery's handwriting is exceptionally clear, his use of capital letters is puzzling. Many of his words appear to be capitalized, but almost no one would capitalize some of them. I have dealt with this problem by capitalizing only those that I imagine he may have intended. Should it become necessary for a future reader to know precisely which words he may have capitalized, that reader will need to consult the manuscript.

D^r^. Trafton and D^r^. Jewett: Dr. Jewett is Jewett's father, Theodore Herman Jewett. Key to Correspondents.

Dr. Trafton could be either Dr. Charles Trafton, the father (1787-1855) or the son (1822-1888). See *Placenames of South Berwick*, p. 60.

Twombley, Mrs. Harvey ... Miss. Pen. Noyes of North Berwick: According to the website of the Old Berwick Historical Society, "Horatio Nelson Twombly, nephew of William H. Fogg, was born in South Berwick and had graduated from Berwick Academy in the 1840s.... In 1886 Twombly became president of Berwick Academy's board of trustees, and oversaw the construction of Fogg Memorial in 1894. The bronze bell in the tower, specially cast in London, was a Twombly gift to the academy."

The Harvey family was well-known in South Berwick, but which Mrs. Harvey Emery refers to is as yet unknown.

Penelope Barker Noyes (1891-1977), and her father, James Atkins Noyes (1857-1945), were members of the Cambridge, MA historical society in 1940. See Find a Grave. While it is unlikely Emery refers to this Pen Noyes, he may refer to a relative.

The manuscript of this letter is held by the Houghton Library of Harvard University: Sarah Orne Jewett Correspondence Series: I. Letters to Sarah Orne Jewett MS Am 1743, (59) Emery, George W. 1 letter; 1895. This transcription is from a photocopy held by the Maine Women Writer's Collection, University of New England, Letters from Sarah Orne Jewett, 1875-1890, Box 4, Folder 159, Burton Trafton Jewett Research Collection.

Sarah Orne Jewett to Louisa Dresel

South Berwick
Monday May 26th.
[*1895*]*

Dear Loulie

I began a letter to you last week but I didn't get it done -- my throat and my rheumatism are pretty well, but I cant seem to cure an antipathy to my pens and inks, and not only many letters, but

[*Page 2*]

the long-deferred Christmas story, still wait for me to feel [*deletion*] like writing. I have kept out of doors a great deal and my heart responds warmly to your accounts of transplanting! Next week I mean to go to town for a day or two to do some of the things that I had to leave undone when I

[*Page 3*]

came off in such an abject condition. I have always wished to tell you that I was feeling so tired and weak that last day that I was half afraid I should have to give up going, but after I was well established in the train I got on very well.

Yes indeed, the apple trees

[*Page 4*]

are most beautiful this year. They are not pink here but the whiteness is almost more beautiful. I do hope that you will get the sketch done. Do write again and please give my love to dear Mrs. Dresel

Yours [ever *corrected*] lovingly
S. O. J.

Notes

1895: This speculative date is based upon Jewett mentioning that she is working on a delayed Christmas story during the month of May. In a letter to Annie Adams Fields tentatively dated in late spring of 1895, Jewett reports working on a Christmas story for publication in *St. Nicholas*. Jewett's only Christmas story to appear in that

magazine was "Betty Leicester's English Christmas," published in three parts: December 1895 - February 1896.

The manuscript of this letter is held by the Morgan Library & Museum. MA 2971. Record ID: 104766 Accession Number: MA 2932.

Sarah Orne Jewett to Frederick Mercer Hopkins

[*Begin letterhead*]
South Berwick, Maine
[*End letterhead*]
[*To the right of the letterhead* 27 May 1895]

Dear Sir:

You will have to say* that Mifs Jewett was seriously ill the greater part of the winter (after an attack [*deletion*] of the nature of pneumonia) and has been forced to lay aside her writing affairs . . There will be a story in one of the summer numbers of the *Century**

[*Page 2*]*

~~of somewhat earlier date.~~ written last year or earlier{.} The sketch published in Harper's, May 1892 called Decoration Day, has kept its hold surprisingly and is ~~heard of as~~ making part of the exercises of the day this year. It was translated

[*Page 3*]

into French last ~~year~~ ^summer^ and figured in the Revue des Deux mondes --*

I am sorry that I can only think of these few most meagre notes but perhaps you can use them as suggestions that will serve your purpose.

Yours very truly

S O Jewett

To
F. M. Hopkins

(over.

[*Page 4*]

It would be very good if you could find room to speak of the really charming book of ~~Mrs~~ Celia Thaxter's* Letters edited by Mrs. J. T. Fields and Miss Lamb. It is a book so vitalized by a delightful and vigorous personality that its readers must lay it down with the feeling of having made a new friend. The refinement of the editing is a contrast to much ^biographical^ work that has been done of late. The portraits are inadequately ~~made~~ reproduced,

[*Page 5*]

but as for the work of the editors and printers nothing better could be asked. It is understood that Miss S. O. Jewett is to prepare a volume of Mrs. Thaxter's stories for children for the press later in the season.

(Mrs. Thaxter's letters are just published and I should like very much to have you

[*Page 6*]

print the above notes. Please do not quote from me in using them, and may I count on you destroying this letter altogether, for such things which serve a friend's purpose in their day have a very different sound and misconstruction later. I am indeed sorry to send you such untidy pages.)

Notes

have to say: Richard Cary says:

> Hopkins had undoubtedly solicited material for the "Literary Chat" department of *Munsey's Magazine.* In the September 1895 issue appears a recognizable paraphrase of Miss Jewett's recommendation. After praising the "beauty and naturalness" with which Mrs. Thaxter invested her poems with a sense of mountains, salt breezes and surf, the item goes on to say: "In her letters we find, as we might expect, the same thrill of the sea that pervades her verse, the same tremendous, overwhelming love of nature. It is a genuine treat to read these letters, so ably and sympathetically edited, for in the reading we are brought very near to a personality our literature could ill afford to lose" (681). No mention of Miss Jewett's activities was made at this time.

Century: Jewett's "All My Sad Captains," *Century* 50 (September 1895) and collected in *The Life of Nancy* (1895).

Page 2: Pages 2-4 are numbered in brackets, top center, in another hand.

Decoration Day: Jewett's "Decoration Day" appeared in *Harper's* in June 1892, and was collected in *A Native of Winby* (1893). A translation by Th. Bentzon (Marie Thérèse de Solms Blanc), "Le Jour de la Décoration," appeared in *Revue des Deux Mondes 124* (1 August 1894).

mondes: The "m" is underlined twice, presumably to indicate that Jewett intended it to be capitalized.

Celia Thaxter's ... Lamb: Celia Laighton Thaxter and Rose Lamb. Key to Correspondents. *Letters*

of Celia Thaxter (1895).

Jewett provided prefaces for Thaxter's *Stories and Poems for Children* (1895) and for the Appledore Edition of *The Poems of Celia Thaxter* (1896).

The manuscript of this letter is held by Colby College Special Collections, Waterville, ME: JEWE.1. Richard Cary included his transcription in *Sarah Orne Jewett Letters.* New transcription and notes.

Sarah Orne Jewett Item*

[*28 May 1895*]

She made the most o' everything too. Now she only had that one old quince-tree down in the far corner of the piece, but she'd go out in the spring and 'tend to it and look at it so pleasant and kind of expect the old thorny thing into bloomin'."

"She was just the same with folks," said Sarah Ann.

From Miss Tempy's Watchers

By Sarah Orne Jewett

Copied May 28, 1895.

Notes

This transcription is from a typescript held by the Maine Women Writer's Collection, University of New England, Letters from Sarah Orne Jewett, 1875-1890, Box 4, Folder 159, Burton Trafton Jewett Research Collection.

Trafton's notes indicate that the manuscript is held by the Rauner Special Collections Library at Dartmouth College, the Harold Rugg Papers: 895328.

A parenthetical note at the top of the page reads: (Gift of Mrs. Alyse Gregory. On folded notepaper printed at the top South Berwick, Maine).

Beyond this information, the provenance of this note is unknown. It's presence here suggests that Jewett herself wrote and signed this piece, but that remains uncertain.

This quotation varies in punctuation from the three published versions of "Miss Tempy's Watchers" over which Jewett had control: *Atlantic Monthly* in March 1888, *The King of Folly Island* (1888) and *Tales of New England* (1890).

Mary Cowden-Clarke to Sarah Orne Jewett

Villa Novello
Genoa
29th May 1895

My dear Miss Jewett

Finding your card in the delightful Packet which came to me from the Publishers of Mrs Fields' charming book,* I fancy it is to you that I owe this most welcome and generous gift. Pray accept my warm thanks for the great pleasure its perusal has afforded me; a pleasure most tender and touching, while reading this admirable manifestation of our cherished Celia Thaxter's nobly beautiful nature. How purely devout! How beautifully and perpetually industrious! How devotedly practical, yet how refinedly poetical, was her whole course of life!

Magnificently has our dear Mrs Fields

[*Page 2*]

drawn the entire faithful picture. Thank her for me as you best can; though I mean to write her a few words -- inadequate as they must needs be -- to thank her myself, for the true gratification she and you have given to

yours gratefully
Mary Cowden=Clarke*

Notes

charming book: Clarke refers to *Letters of Celia Thaxter* (1895), edited by Annie Adams Fields and Rose Lamb. Key to Correspondents for all of these persons.

Cowden=Clarke: Cowden-Clarke has doubled her hyphen.

The manuscript of this letter is held by the Houghton Library of Harvard University: Sarah Orne Jewett Correspondence I, Letters to Sarah Orne Jewett. Clarke, Mary Victoria (Novello) 1809-1898, bMS Am 1743 (41). This transcription is from a photocopy held by the Maine Women Writer's Collection, University of New England, Letters from Sarah Orne Jewett, 1875-1890, Box 2, Folder 99, Burton Trafton Jewett Research Collection.

Annie Adams Fields to Lilian Aldrich

Manchester by Sea
June 2d
a hot Sunday

[*1895*]*

Dear Lilian:

I have left your kind note unanswered for a few days until Sarah should ^be^ here and I could send you her love with mine.

I am going down into Maine in July and either then or possibly the last week of August

[*Page 2*]

we can come to you for a few days if you would like to have us.

I wonder if dear "T.B." ever heard from us about his book* during his travels. Well ---- if he didn't

[*Page 3*]

at least he knows that I wrote and everything will wait until we meet to be talked over.

(It is on [record *corrected* ' that [this *corrected*] is one of the hottest days the Lord has made)

Affectionately yours
Annie Fields.

Notes

[1895]: This date in brackets has been added in another hand. It seems likely to be correct. June 2 fell on a Sunday in 1895. In the late summer of that year, Jewett and Fields spent a few weeks with the Aldriches in Martinsville, ME.

book: In 1895, Aldrich published two books: *Unguarded Gates, and Other Poems*, and *The Story of a Bad Boy*.

The manuscript of this letter is held by the Houghton Library of Harvard University: Thomas Bailey Aldrich Papers, MS Am 1429, Box 6, Items 1446-1538.

Sarah Orne Jewett to Louisa Loring Dresel

148 Charles Street
Thursday
[*June 6, 1895*]*

Dear Louisa

I found a mysterious box waiting for my coming and I hasten to take my pen in hand to endeavor (tho' with difficulty) to express my sentiments* of fond emotion on receiving this new proof of your affection and taste. My heart leaps like the pretty rabbit, and I shall be ever

[*Page 2*]

eager to return in some way the pleasure you have afforded me. Believe me, esteemed Louisa, that I shall never hop the graceful bunny without a tender thought of her who offered him on the shrine of Friendship. These things give rise to thoughts far

[*Page 3*]

too deep for expression, but you will gather from my hasty words that this last gift has affected me more perhaps than any of the lovely tokens that have been heretofore so fondly cherished.

I am ever yours most affectionately

S. O. J.*

Notes

1895: Associated with this letter is an envelope addressed to Mifs Dresel at Cove Hill, Beverly, MA, cancelled in Boston and in Beverly on 6 June 1895.

sentiments: It is unclear whether Jewett wrote "sentiments" or "sentiment." I have followed Richard Cary, who saw it as "sentiments."
Jewett's underlining in this letter is in "wavy" rather than straight lines. Jewett rarely underlines so many words.

S.O.J.: Below her signature, Jewett has drawn a figure with the head of a rabbit.

The manuscript of this letter is held by Colby College Library Special Collections, Waterville, ME: JEWE.1 -- Folder A14: to Louisa Loring Dresel, 1886-1898. Richard Cary's annotated transcription appeared in "Jewett to Dresel: 33 Letters," *Colby Library Quarterly* 7:1 (March 1975), 13-49. New transcription and notes.

Sarah Orne Jewett to Henry Oscar Houghton

148 Charles St.
Wednesday 19th [*June 1895*]*

Dear Mr. Houghton

I was very much disturbed about what Miss Alger* did on Madame Blanc's account and everybody elses. She must have gone [directly *?*] to Roberts Brothers in spite of what Mrs. Fields and I both told her -- I wanted to write to you about

[*Page 2*]

it but just as your note came I was taken with lung fever and I am still ill in bed. I am very sorry that you should have had any annoyance and so is Mrs. Fields. We cannot help blaming Miss Alger very much for taking other peoples affairs into her own hands because I especially asked her to wait until she heard from me and

[*Page 3*]

later, when Mrs. Fields saw her, she told her that she ~~could~~ must not do any thing until she saw you -- if it turns out ^by the printed [slip *?*]^ that she had all the time made her definite arrangements in which she has not considered Madam Blanc in the least. It worries me very much.

Yours ever sincerely
Sarah O Jewett

Notes

1895: See notes below. If the year is correct, then the only Wednesday to fall on the 19th was in June. Written at the top left, in another hand: Sarah O. Jewett.

Alger: Abigail Langdon Alger. Probably the occasion for this letter was the 1895 publication of Alger's translation of *The Condition of Woman in the United States* by Thérèse de Solms Blanc (Th. Bentzon). The translation was published by Roberts Brothers, while Jewett, Annie Adams Fields, Houghton, and probably Blanc, evidently preferred Houghton, Mifflin.

The manuscript of this letter is held by the Houghton Library of Harvard University: Henry Oscar Houghton papers III. Letters to H. O. Houghton from various persons, Jewett, Sarah Orne, 1849-1909. 7 letters; 1894 & n.d. Box: 9 MS Am 1648, (513). This transcription is from a photocopy held by the Maine Women Writers Collection, Burton Trafton Collection, Box 2, folder 88.

T. F. Upham to Mary Rice Jewett

[*Begin letterhead*]
Duluth Securities Company
F. A. Whiting, Prest.
N. J. Upham. V. Prest.
A. St. J. Whiting, Treas.
T. F. Upham, Secy.
Eastern Office, Lowell, Mass. *Duluth, Minn.* [*Date handwritten*: July 2d 1895]
[*End letterhead*]

Miss Mary R. Jewett
South Berwick, Maine

Dear Madam:--

The Est. [Gaullains *?*] loan owned by Caroline A. Eastman matured on the 1st of July. The interest & taxes have been somewhat delinquent and we were about to write you advising foreclosure when we obtained a deed for the property from the owner who preferred to deed it rather than be sued. The property is in fairly good condition and is worth in the neighborhood of $1400 at the present time. We enclose herewith a statement of the taxes which should be paid as the greater part of the amount bears interest at the rate of twelve per cent. If not convenient

[*Page 2, with the same letterhead*]

to pay them now it is not absolutely necessary, however. We will see the tenants and advise you later as regard to rents. The building is in fair condition.

It is better to accept a deed to the property than to foreclose as in the latter case there would be extra costs amounting to about $80 besides taxes and loss of any income during the year allowed the owner for redemption.

We have seen Mrs. Nelson again & find that she will be unable to pay up & the only step you can take in that case is foreclosure. It is not very pleasant to lose interest on both of these loans but we believe without question the [*deleted word*] principal is secured & if not redeemed

[*Page 3, with the same letterhead*]

the properties will prove good investments.

In regard to the paper sent you on the [Goulan *?*] loan it is a matter of delinquent tax which we are looking over carefully & will [protect *?*] & write you fully about in a few days{.}

Very respectfully
T. F. Upham*
Secy.

Notes

Caroline A. Eastman: It appears that Mary Jewett is acting on behalf of her widowed sister, Carrie, in this matter.

The context of this letter is unknown. It seems that Carrie or her husband, before his death, had invested in loans on two buildings, and that the owners of the buildings -- perhaps an unnamed person for one and Mrs. Nelson for the other -- have been unable to make their loan payments

and to pay property taxes. As a result, one owner has surrendered the deed, turning the building over to Jewetts' agent, Duluth Securities Company. To secure this deed, the Jewetts need to pay the delinquent taxes.

If there is indeed a second building owned by Mrs. Nelson, it appears the company is suggesting foreclosure.

For further information seemingly related to this topic, see two letters of 1896: 19 August, Alexander R. McHenry, Jr. to Benjamin Orne, and 1 December, Samuel B. Haupt to Alexander R. McHenry.

T. F. Upham: The identity of Mary Jewett's correspondent is not yet certain. He may be Thomas Francis Janeway Upham (1869-1945). His older brother was Nathaniel Janeway Upham (1865-1942). Their initials match those listed on the letterhead, and both were businessmen in Duluth, MN, during the last two decades of the 19th century.

The manuscript of this letter is held by Historic New England in Jewett Family Papers, MS MS014.01.04.68.

John Burroughs to Sarah Orne Jewett

West Park N.Y.
July 11, 1895

My Dear Miss Jewett

I was glad to receive your letter with its kind invitation. If I come to Greenacre* I shall certainly accept it, -- Indeed it adds an inducement to come that I have not before felt. When these people invited me to speak there I declined. But through a friend of mine in N.Y., Dr. Moore* they pressed the matter

[*Page 2*]

willing to [rest in *?*] the mere shadow of a promise. So they have put me down for Aug 10th{.} If I do not turn up (& it is extremely doubtful) Dr Moore has [agreed *?*] to find a substitute. I go to my old home in a few days for a months stay & I suspect the old ties will hold me close. With many many thanks for your thoughtfulness I am

Cordially yours
John Burroughs

My regards to Mrs Fields whose face I remember well.

Notes

Greenacre: The Moses Farmer home in Eliot, ME, which in 1894 became a center for interfaith religious meetings and activity, under the leadership of Farmer and his daughter, Sarah Jane Farmer (b. 1847). Eventually the site became the Green Acre Bahá'í School. Wikipedia.

Dr. Moore: This person has not yet been identified.

The manuscript of this letter is held by the Miller Library, Special Collections, Colby College, Waterville, ME: JEWE.1.

Sarah Orne Jewett to Anne Whitney Fragment*

[*21 July 1895*]

agent who is going to have her vacation in August. That will leave A.F. presiding officer -- or "Captain, cook and all hands" as my grandfather used to say!

-- I hope to see her here again toward the last of the week however -- and by that time I am sure we can make some

[*Page ?*]

decision -- I am very busy writing this summer but this seems such a pleasant holiday that I should be very sorry to give it up ---- with many thanks

Yours sincerely
Sarah O. Jewett

Notes

Fragment: The late Elizabeth R. Payne of Wellesley College Archives identified this fragment from the Anne Whitney papers as addressed to Anne Whitney and dated 21 July 1895.

The manuscript of this fragment is held by Wellesley College Archives and may be viewed here: https://repository.wellesley.edu/object/wellesley12427. Transcription assisted by Katie Lamontagne of Wellesley College Archives.

Sarah Wyman Whitman to Sarah Orne Jewett Fragment

July 23, 1895.

. . . Not my plans, but the arrangements and expectations of others make up all my days, so far this summer, which I say not by way of complaint, but just of statement. I take refuge in dreams; a little more thick and fast than usual just now, because my eyes have been well for three weeks and because that means a more thumping beat of

the old pulse. But I can only look and long yet awhile, so far as getting the dream on foot is concerned. . . .

Have you read Symonds' *Life and Letters?* He sends out such a brave courageous cry and heartens those who hear him. And somehow it made me feel afresh some of the weak spots in the Christian Science scheme that refuses to allow pain to be a minister by refusing its existence. I guess we must re-adjust the new dogmas nearer to the heart's necessities. Grief indeed "makes the young spring wild," but grief endured and dimly understood, seems to smite into one some of the deepest recognitions of the human Spirit. . . . You see I am wishing and needing to see you very much.

Notes

Symonds' Life and Letters: John Addington Symonds (1840-1893). Horatio F. Brown's *John Addington Symonds: A Biography Compiled from his Papers and Correspondence* was published in 1895.

Christian Science scheme: American religious leader Mary Baker Eddy (1821-1910) founded what became known as the Church of Christ, Scientist in Boston in 1879. The church is best known for its doctrines regarding healing illness, emphasizing the importance of prayer, sometimes to the exclusion of medical treatment.

Grief ... "makes the young spring wild": In "Adonais" (1821), Percy Bysshe Shelley's (1792-1822) elegy to John Keats (1795-1821) appear the lines:

Grief made the young Spring wild, and she threw down
Her kindling buds, as if she Autumn were.

This transcription appears in *Letters*, Sarah Wyman Whitman. Cambridge, MA: Riverside Press, 1907, "Letters to Sarah Orne Jewett: 1882-1903," pp. 61-109.

Alice French to Sarah Orne Jewett

Davenport
July 27 / 95*

Dear Miss Jewett!

I don't blame you. I admire you! I wish I had your moral courage. I did turn (as the worm will, you know) and declined to give Mr. Bok* a sketch of my father in the character of the Man who most Influenced me! I

[*Page 2*]

[was'nt *so spelled*] awfully civil in my refusal, either. There is a limit it seems to me. We have some rights that even the public we serve ought to respect!

I hope I may meet you this autumn.

Until then, brave as well as gentle lady, I remain,

with admiration

Yours sincerely,
Alice French

Notes

95: On page 1 is an embossed letterhead in gold ink, with what appear to be initials inside a circle. One of the letters probably is an "F."

Bok: Edward William Bok. Key to Correspondents. It is not yet known why Jewett was upset with Mr. Bok.

The manuscript of this letter is held by the Houghton Library of Harvard University, Cambridge, MA. bMS Am 1743 Box 2, Item 70 I. Letters to Sarah Orne Jewett.

Sarah Orne Jewett to Annie Adams Fields
Fragment

[*Summer 1895*]*

[*The opening pages of this manuscript are missing*]

Mr. Warner* and I have spoken of her again and again -- She had been out for a [*deleted letter*] walk with such a nice woman who takes care of her. The [girl *?*] seems nervous and strained up -- altogether [the *?*] calm look of [the *?*] house and their own strange expressions and unrelatedness to her [words *?*] about them and that terrible face and bent figure in its quiet nice old lady's dress coming suddenly in! I cant tell you how it stays with me. --------

Mr. Warner says I must give you "lots of love." They are planning for a later [*deleted mark*] visit from us but I was doubtful -- ---- I had a dear

[*Page 2*]

half hour with [Ted *?*]* -- which I shall tell you all about --

I am so glad that you are going to be a little longer in Manchester in this perfect weather --. I hope to join you wherever you may happen to be -- but I must go to [New York *?*] for a night I think. Mr. Warner still keeps on with the Paul Jones story

idea* & has found some material there for me. With dear dear love

Yours always -- Pinny

Thank you so much for your dear bit of a letter & for thy friends.*

Notes

Summer 1895: This is a highly speculative date, based mainly upon the likelihood that Jewett refers to Harriet Beecher Stowe and describes her near the end of her life, 1 July 1896. See notes below.

Given these details and the discussion of the John Paul Jones material, it seems likely the letter is closer to 1896 than to 1890 -- always assuming I am correct that Stowe is the topic --, so I have placed the letter in 1895.

Mr. Warner: Charles Dudley Warner (d. 1900). Key to Correspondents. Though the letter offers no hard supporting evidence, that Warner was a neighbor and friend of Harriet Beecher Stowe, for whom both Fields and Jewett felt great affection and respect, suggests that Jewett refers to Stowe here. During her final ten years, Stowe suffered from a form of dementia, which set in soon after her husband's death in 1886. In the description here, the disease seems well advanced, and Stowe's physical health also has declined a good deal. The physical description fits her as well. See for example, Mark Twain's description of her condition, quoted in *Wikipedia*.

Paul Jones story: Jewett's work on John Paul Jones eventually led to her final novel, *The Tory Lover* (1901).

C. D. Warner had suggested at some as yet unknown time before 1900 that Jewett write a story the dealt with American Revolutionary naval hero John Paul Jones (1747-1792), who had recruited part of his crew for *The Ranger* in the South Berwick area.

Ted: This transcription is very uncertain, and the person remains unidentified.

The manuscript of this letter is held by the Huntington Library, San Marino, CA, in the James T. Fields papers: mss FL 5562. This manuscript has been damaged by water, making parts of the transcription less than normally certain.

Sarah Orne Jewett to Mark Antony DeWolfe Howe

Friday morning
[*Summer 1895*]*

Dear Mr. Howe

I find this note on my desk and remember that I promised to send it to you. Please do not forget 97 Rhode Island avenue on a summer day! It was a great pleasure to go with you yesterday.

Yours sincerely
S. O. Jewett

Notes

Summer 1895: This date is a guess based upon the likelihood that Jewett refers to what probably was the summer address in Newport, RI, of Anna Eliot Ticknor, with whom Howe probably had become acquainted in April 1895, according to letters of 14 April that year.

97 Rhode Island avenue: Probably this address is in Newport, RI, what is known as the Henry H. Swinburne house. In 1892, Anna Eliot Ticknor was listed as a renting summer resident at this address. Key to Correspondents.

The manuscript of this letter is held by the Houghton Library of Harvard University in Mark Antony De Wolfe Howe additional papers, 1880-1959. MS Am 1524 (774). Jewett, Sarah Orne, 1849-1909. 16 letters from; 1891-1903.

Margaret Elizabeth Sangster* to Sarah Orne Jewett

[*Begin letterhead*]
HARPER & BROTHERS' EDITORIAL ROOMS.
FRANKLIN SQUARE, NEW YORK.
[*End letterhead*]

August 16, 1895

Dear Miss Jewett,

The Bazar will be happy to pay you $250.00 for a story* of 5000 words or thereabout, to be used in our New Year's number. Do let me have it, if you can, by October 15th -- 20th . I thank you for saying that you will try to write it, and for the concession as regards the price.

Through my dear Mrs.

[*Page 2*]

Spofford, and Miss Susan Ward,* I feel as if I had met you in the flesh, as indeed I often have in the spirit. I am glad you have recovered even partially

from the pneumonia of last winter. The disease is so sharp and relentless that it must take a section of forever to get back where one was before its attack. I am, with thanks and anticipation,

Very Sincerely Yours,
Margaret E. Sangster

Notes

Sangster: American author Margaret Elizabeth Sangster (1848-1912) served as an editor at *Harper's Bazar* 1889-1899. Wikipedia.

story: In *Harper's Bazar* (29:29-31), 11 January 1896 appeared Jewett's "The New-Year Guests," which later was collected as "Aunt Cynthy Dallett" in *The Queen's Twin and Other Stories* (1899).

Spofford ... Ward: Harriet Elizabeth Prescott Spofford and Susan Hayes Ward. Key to Correspondents.

The manuscript of this letter is held by the Houghton Library of Harvard University in Sarah Orne Jewett, Additional Correspondence, MS Am 1743.1, Box 2, Item 97, I. Letters to Sarah Orne Jewett[.

Sarah Orne Jewett to an Unknown Person

August 29th 1895
Isle au haut, Maine

My dear Sir

In answer to your questions I must say that my characters have been with very few exceptions imaginary, and that I do not arrange my stories beforehand into chapters [*unreadable mark*] but let them take form as they progress. I have never been in the habit of [of *repeated*] dictating to a stenographer

With thanks for your kind wishes believe me

Yours very truly
S. O. Jewett

Note

The manuscript of this letter is held in the Sarah Orne Jewett Collection, 1801-1997, of the University of New England's Maine Women Writers Collection: II. Correspondence, item 141.

Sarah Orne Jewett to Mary Bucklin Davenport Claflin

Wednesday morning
[*late summer 1895*]*
Charles Street

Dear Mrs. Claflin

I came to town for a few days just as you kindly sent your note and the books to Berwick to find me. I dont believe in acknowledging books before I read them -- as a general thing! -- but I must thank this time and tell you now how much I like the stories when I come up again

[*Page 2*]

and can see you. Mary writes me that Mother has been enjoying your reminiscences* very much and that alone gives me great pleasure in having them.

I am glad to say that dear Mother is much more comfortable than she has been and that she gets out to drive in pleasant weather &c. but she is

[*Page 3*]

still very far from strong and we are always trying to take great care of her.

I wish that we could have sent for you to come to Berwick this summer, but we had to be very quiet of course, nearly all the time.

With my best thanks and much love

Yours sincerely
Sarah O. Jewett

Notes

1895: As the note below indicates, this letter is dated in relation to Mrs. Jewett's health and the publication date of Mary Claflin's *Under the Old Elms*. It is possible that it was composed at another time when Mrs. Jewett was unwell and Mrs. Claflin had published one of her three biographical books.

your reminiscences: Given that Jewett's mother, Caroline Perry, is seriously ill and that she died in the spring of 1897, it seems reasonable to guess that the book Jewett mentions is Claflin's *Under the Old Ims* (1895).

The manuscript of this letter is held by Rutherford B. Hayes Presidential Center in the Governor William and Mary Claflin Papers, GA-9, Box 4, Miscellaneous Folder J, Ac 950.

Annie Adams Fields to Mary Rice Jewett

Sepr 2d 1895
[*Begin letterhead*]
The Anchorage,
Martinsville, Maine.
[*End letterhead*]

My dear Mary:

Sarah will have written you "the true story" of our housekeeping here, nonetheless I must add a few words to say that I trust you will be making up your mind to come down during the month for a week or two after your guests have gone. We have the whole world to ourselves and a most picturesque world it is! wide pastures and great sea, to make [*two or more unrecognized words*]

[*Page 2*]

of in the direction of view from life and out-of-door [*unrecognized word,* ____ment]. It is not a [locale *?*] for [*unrecognized word*] driving but for endless tramps and boating.

And now I am going to add to your [present *?*] duties and 'cares' by asking you to put up a package for me and send to Miss Henrietta Marion Grew

The Sumachs.*
Manchester-by-the-Sea
Mass.

Sarah says that there is a

[*Page 3*]

[*unrecognized word*] (or several she thinks) of [*2 or 3 unrecognized word*s] Books at South Berwick and that she will be glad to have [*unrecognized word*] take one. The book has been out of print and as the young lady is to be married on the 18th I do not like to defer sending on a chance. I am most sorry to give you all this trouble but Sarah has over persuaded my reluctance. I know indeed that you are ready to do a kindness, therefore,

[*Page 4*]

am going to beg this 'new one' at your hands.

You would have been pleased to see us [shaking *?*] house into our little abode. We had scarcely arrived when the rain fell in torrents lasting all night, but in the height of the storm in the [midst *?*] of the [*unrecognized word*] Sarah's [*6 unrecognized words*] we had a bedstead carted away in order to leave us room. I am sure our neighbors must have been alive with excitement at such goings on.

I hope it will [seem to you *?*] worthwhile to come as soon as you are free. If the weather is good I think you will enjoy it. [*Unrecognized word*] to you and Carrie [a *meaning* and *?*]

[*Up the left margin & down the top margin of page 1*]

Theodore from your Annie Fields. Tell Carrie please -- that her pincushion seems to have been created for this [purple *?*]! We all have to wait our opportunities !! do not fail to give my best regards to Mrs. Tyler* and Miss [*unrecognized name*]

Notes

Henrietta Marion Grew ... The Sumachs: Henrietta Marion Grew (1872-1957) married Stephen Van Rensselaer Crosby (1868-1959) on 18 September 1895 in Manchester, MA. Their children included Henry Grew Crosby (1898-1929) and Katharine Schuyler Crosby (1901-1959). She lived in Manchester-by-the-Sea at the time of her death. Her parents were Henry Sturgis Grew (1834-1910) and Jane Norton Wigglesworth (1836-1920). A successful Boston businessman, Mr. Grew had homes in Boston, Hyde Park, and Manchester by the Sea. The Manchester home was the Sumacs, on Masconomo St.

Mrs Tyler: Augusta Maria Denny Tyler. Key to Correspondents.

The manuscript of this letter is held by Historic New England in Letters from Annie Fields to Mary Rice Jewett, Jewett Family Papers: MS014.01.04.

Thomas Bailey Aldrich to Sarah Orne Jewett

Ponkapog, Mass
Sept 2d 1895

Dear Sarah:

A volume of the "Twice Told Tales"* on a shelf here has just reminded me that I didn't finish a sentence which I began the other day at the Crags.* Matilda* or somebody interrupted me, and my meaning was left dangling in the air. What I meant to say was this: Every generation has its own story-tellers, and very few of them ever survive their generation. The two or three who do, are authors who have painted some special phase of life in some indelible local color. I think that Mrs.

[*Page 2*]

Stowe* has done this in several of her Oldtown sketches ("Uncle Tom's Cabin" will live for other

reasons), Miss Wilkins in her Humble Romances,* and you in at least a dozen pictures of New England country life. I believe, for example, that Hawthorne's pallid allegories will have faded away long before those live little Dulham ladies* will give up their daring railway journeys to the neighboring town, in search of innocent personal decorations. Now my own stories are without any particular raison d'être,* they record nothing, they toil not neither do they spin.* They simply amuse, if they do that. They are written in good English and have a certain kind of humor; but in nothing is the fashion so brief

[*Page 3*]

and whimsical as in humor. So, you see, I care very little about my prose. I wish it had been of the permanent sort. Into my verse, I hope, I have got some more lasting material. I don't know. I wont say I don't care, but I don't care greatly. I have had my pay in the pleasure of expressing myself. Is it vital -- what 1995 shall think of us all? Perhaps it will prefer F. B. Sanborn to Emerson, and think Will Carleton a finer poet than Longfellow.* Meanwhile I wish to the Lord that we were back at Tenants Harbor, a-smelling of the sea and planning a cruise to Monhegan.

With our love to you both,*
Affectionately yours,
T.B.A.

Notes

"Twice Told Tales": American author Nathanial Hawthorne (1804 1864) collected his early stories in two volumes of *Twice Told Tales* (1837, 1842).

the Crags: Beginning in the 1890s, this was the Aldrich's summer home in Tenants Harbor, ME.

Matilda ... boys: Mrs. Aldrich's full given name was Mary Elizabeth "Lily" Woodman. Almost certainly, Aldrich refers to her. The Aldriches' twin sons, Talbot and Charles were born in 1868. Key to Correspondents.

Mrs. Stowe: Harriet Beecher Stowe. Key to Correspondents. Her anti-slavery novel, *Uncle Tom's Cabin*, appeared in 1852. She published two volumes of Oldtown sketches, *Old Town Folks* (1869) and *Oldtown Fireside Stories* (1871).

Miss Wilkins ...Humble Romances: American author, Mary Eleanor Wilkins Freeman (1852-1930) published *A Humble Romance and Other Stories* (1887) and numerous other works of fiction and of literature for children.

Dulham ladies: Jewett's "The Dulham Ladies" appeared in *Atlantic Monthly* 57 (1886).

raison d'être ...neither do they spin: French: raison d'être means "the reason for something's existence."

Aldrich alludes to the Bible, Matthew 6:28, where Jesus says: "And why take ye thought for raiment? Consider the lilies of the field, how they grow; they toil not, neither do they spin."

F. B. Sanborn ... Emerson ... Will Carleton ... Longfellow: Franklin Benjamin Sanborn (1831-1917) was an American author and reformer, a chronicler of American transcendentalism who wrote biographies of the movement's key figures, notably Ralph Waldo Emerson (1803-1882).

William McKendree Carleton (1845-1912) was a Michigan poet who wrote mostly of rural life, and he was sometimes compared with Scottish poet, Robert Burns.

For Henry Wadsworth Longfellow, Key to Correspondents.

The manuscript of this letter is held by Colby College Special Collections, Collection of Sarah Orne Jewett Materials: Letters to Sarah Orne Jewett, Thomas Bailey Aldrich 1889-1895. 2 ALS Cambridge. Ponkapog, MA. 6 p.

Sarah Orne Jewett to Carrie Jewett Eastman
Fragment

Seawoods*
Tenants Harbor
Wednesday
[*September 1895*]

Dear Carrie

……..…Tell John* that I paid for the band to go to Emery's Bridge* and he must tell Mr. Adams* and have him settle it. -- perhaps it would be better now to wait for the moon, but he can see.

Notes

Seawoods: According to George Carey's "The Rise and Fall of Elmore," "William Richardson, known to his intimates as “Will Dear” ...had made a small fortune when he invented the clothing snap, the popular forerunner of the zipper, and with some of his money he built Seawoods, a 13-room house that faced the ocean. Richardson’s sister-in-law married Thomas Bailey Aldrich, the editor of *The Atlantic Monthly*, and soon his large rambling cottage, The Crags just to the north of Seawoods, was drawing to Elmore such literary luminaries as Mark Twain and Sarah Orne

Jewett."

September 1895: As other letters from September 1895 show, Jewett and Annie Fields stayed in Tenants Harbor, ME during this month.

John: John Tucker. Key to Correspondents.

band to go to Emery's Bridge: The details of Jewett arranging for a band to play at nearby Emery's Bridge in September of 1895 are not yet known. In a letter of 9 June 1892, Mary Rice Jewett notes that the town has voted money for the band to play summer concerts in the square.

Mr. Adams: This person has not yet been identified.

This text is from transcriptions from mixed repositories in the Maine Women Writer's Collection, University of New England, Letters from Sarah Orne Jewett, 1875-1890, Undated Letters, Folder 75, Burton Trafton Jewett Research Collection. Notes by Terry Heller, Coe College.

Sarah Orne Jewett to Carolyn Jewett Eastman and Mary Rice Jewett

[*8 September 1895*]*

Sunday morning
[*Begin letterhead*]
The Anchorage
Martinsville, Maine.
[*End letterhead*]

Dear Mary & Carrie

I have now returned from Mrs. Bacheller's* have returned the aforesaid cinnamon & nutmegs which were borrowed yesterday, and had a beautiful call and been given a handful of sweet peas. She is going to Tenant's Harbor this afternoon to her uncle's funeral: he died very sudden with a heart complaint -- She was coming in to see us yesterday [late *written over something*] and picked the blackberries to bring (we had them in a little glass dish for breakfast.) but she was prevented. We have been looking forward to a call, but everybody goes to Mrs. Bacheller for everything. ^When^ A. F. stepped [for *may be underlined*] the cinnamon 'a lady' had come to get Mrs. Bacheller to help her with a dress and it was a [cutting *?*] out on a table. You will have words about the garden with her Mary. She has got all ~~ther~~ her window ledges full of things in cups

[2]

and tin cans so that none of them look as if they could be opened….

I am glad that there are any prospects in regard to the Upham things -- and I sent Becca a cheque so that there will be money enough over for my part; though I have spent Miss Betty Leicester* in a way that was more pleasing. She was always a nice little girl and ready for what was wanted of her!

Now, I should like to do something about [Mr. *?*] A. F. Kelley!* I think that it is unforgiveable not to make any report of your money, which has been waiting so long and mine which has been waiting interest & new investment since July. I think we had better get Mr. Yeaton to look into that and ask him as our lawyer to get a statement of the things in his hands “for reference”.* He may have got more and more careless but that is one road to being swamped. If I had my money [now *?*] I should do something else with it, but the difficulty is to get it.

[3]

and I shall never give him anything else for I hate to be bothered so.

I am dying to hear about the yacht race but in this far corner of the world it takes news a long time to get about.

What a nice time you all must have had going to Dover Point!* I wish I had been there to make one more. Tell Annie.* I should have eaten a great part of the supply, that's one certain thing. I am so glad Carrie is going to Little Boars Head.* I think it will be a beautiful time to her and little Mary!* They never fail for words when they are together and you can say so with my blessing dear little girls! but not to put more on the horse than they ought though such a willing horse and a good roader. One part of the country is as good as another when the conversation be well kept up. For example we are contented to sit like hopper toads here at Martinsville, speaking from time to time and dwelling in the sun among the goldenrod. I wonder if it would be asking too much

[4]

for you to bring my camera when you come by and by. There are some pretty things to take.

Oh how I should like to see Mrs. Tyler and Hattie this morning!* I wonder if you are all going to meeting; we are very remote from the meetin' house but you see the steeple of it like the [near well *?*] from 'Sam's* only there is water

between instead of marshes. I shall have to wait until tomorrow night to get word about the Friday company. I don't believe Maggie Baker will be different only look older.*

Don't forget to give Mrs. Tyler a piece of plumb cake, if her conduct warrants it that is !!

And no more at present

from your affectionate Sister.

[*No signature*]

Notes

8 September 1895: This date is penciled in on the first page of the manuscript, upper right.

Mrs. Bacheller: This person has not been identified. One should notice her similarities to Mrs. Todd, the narrator's landlady in *The Country of the Pointed Firs*, upon which Jewett may have been working during this stay in Martinsville.

Upham things ... Becca ... Miss Betty Leicester: "The Upham things" presumably refer to the Jewett sisters' communications with the Duluth Securities Company. See above on July 2: T. F. Upham to Mary Rice Jewett.

Becca was Rebecca Young. Key to Correspondents.

Jewett's *Betty Leicester: A Story for Girls* (1890) apparently still was paying royalties in 1895, or, perhaps, she speaks of advance payment for "Betty Leicester's English Christmas" on which she worked during this summer and which appeared in *St. Nicholas* (December 1895 - February 1896).

A. F. Kelley: This reference has not been identified. However, in the early 1890s, there was a case in South Berwick of apparent mortgage fraud, involving the firm of Austin F. and Louis E. Kelley of Minneapolis, MN. Whether and how the Jewetts were connected with the Kelley firm is not yet known.

Mr. Yeaton: George Campbell Yeaton (1836-1918) was a prominent South Berwick attorney, known locally for his prosecution of Louis Wagner in the Smuttynose murder case on the Isles of the Shoals, about which Celia Thaxter writes in "A Memorable Murder," which appeared in *Atlantic Monthly*, May 1875.

According to Dennis Robinson, Mr. Yeaton "was born in South Berwick, studied law when a young man, received a degree from Bowdoin College and was admitted to the York Bar in May, 1862. Thirteen years afterward he was made county attorney and attained widespread fame for his work in convicting Wagner, assisted by Attorney General Harold M. Plaistead, who afterward became governor of Maine."

Dover Point: Dover Point in Dover, NH is at the confluence of the Bellamy and Piscataqua rivers.

Annie: Probably Annie Barker, who was a South Berwick neighbor who often helped out at the Jewett homes.

Little Boars Head ... little Mary: Carrie Jewett Eastman plans to join their maternal relatives, the Gilman and Bell families at Little Boars Head, NH. Which of the Marys who might be present was "Little Mary" is not yet known.

Mrs. Tyler and Hattie: Augusta Maria Denny Tyler and her sister Mary Harriet Denny. Key to Correspondents.

'Sam's: This reference is obscure. There is today a Sam's Lane between York and South Berwick, from which a landmark in either town would be at some distance.

Maggie Baker: Margaretta Baker Hunt. Key to Correspondents.

The manuscript of this letter is held by Historic New England in Letters from Sarah Orne Jewett to Caroline Augusta Jewett Eastman and Mary Rice Jewett, Jewett Family Papers: MS014.01.02.01.

Sarah Orne Jewett to Mary Rice Jewett and Carrie Jewett Eastman

Sunday
[*8 September 1895*]
[*Begin letterhead*]
The Anchorage
Martinsville, Maine
[*End letterhead*]

Dear Sisters

You would not think from this fine paper that Martinsville* was so plain and bushy a little place, but I suppose it is a relic of the big house that was burnt. I feel as if it were a good while since I wrote before -- but what do you think happened just after I ~~had~~ sent down my letter Friday night, but the sound of Mary Garrett's* mild voice out in the entry and it proved that when she got to Camden* by the electric car there was no [*deleted word*] wind whatever so she conversed with the skipper and made arrangements and got the rest of her basket of luncheon and came back again. It was only half past eight but I was just going to put on my nightgown, the gas being bad and other

[*Page 2*]

occupation failing after I had looked at the newspaper. Mary was in great spirits and luckily I had two nightgowns and bestowed the best upon her though I had slept in it one night at Isleboro* in her dear best bed. Then we had a nice time and parted and dont you think I heard a great rattling [*a line inserted between lines* ^as if the carts were going down to the Boston boat^] and waked up with a start and looked at my watch -- five o'clock says I! and they have forgotten to call us! and I scuttled the best ~~as~~ I could and was all but ready to go down when I looked at the watch again and found that I had mistaken the hands with sleepy eyes and it was twenty five minutes past twelve. (a poor sister never was very bright to [*deleted word*] tell the truth!) The morning I was going to Isleboro they routed me at four and you never can tell what time the little bay steamers get off. However I retired and slept my appointed time and Mary and I went down to the

[*Page 3*]

steamer wharf and found A.F. who was having a nice [time *corrected*] in the cabin of the Silver Star* with Cassie & Margaret* who is one of the nicest girls {,} as neat with her cooking as Cassie would be ^and a very nice cook I think^ -- Mary could only stay a little while and I saw her to the Juliette*and then off we started down the bay and it soon blew clear and dry. The Linnet* was on the wharf to meet us and ^was^ prepared to take us up, girls & all, to have breakfast. He & A. F. walked up by the little path and we did have such a nice time & beautiful breakfast. They were going to town later in the day but the house isnt to close for a few days. They are going to New York to the Yacht races. The [Linnet *corrected*] being tres amiable and better than when we were here. & Lilian ever so nice. The boxes

[*Page 4*]

with provisions hadn't come from the big boat to the little one, so you can imagine what benefactions of delicious butter etc. ^Lilian^ heaped upon us. The little house looked very pleasant as we drove up and we soon made it look very nice and quite our own, inside, & Margaret & Cassie like it as much as we do. I found two proper mushrooms this morning and they are going out with a basket this afternoon with high hopes. Crabby* slept some in the night, we dont know whether he was only lonesome or saw a mouse in the kitchen. I was so glad to get your letter yesterday -- and to hear about Stubby's going for a sailor. It rained hard all yesterday afternoon, pelting, and we thought it was the north-easter but today has been perfectly lovely so bright with a blue sea. Do tell Becca* that I ate one pear at four & one at

[*Written across left and down the top margins of page 1*]

five a.m. and called them early pears. They were so good -- and the others I brought also served purposes{,} one being given away, tho' with some regret. Do tell Lizzie* both of you how sorry I was not to see her again. Mrs. Fields sends love to both. I hope you will excuse this letty with a pin pen* as have not got going at my own desk.

with much love
Sarah

I shall have a beautiful birthday* and get out my [fine *?*] presents & have them all [new *?*].

Notes

Martinsville: Martinsville, in St. George, ME, has long been a summering spot for artists and writers.

Mary Garrett's: Mary Elizabeth Garrett. Key to Correspondents.

Camden ... Isleboro: Mary Garrett has been visiting Jewett in Martinsville and has taken an electric car to Camden, about 25 miles north to catch a sailing vessel, perhaps to Isleboro, another summer colony, which is about 10 miles further northeast across West Penobscot Bay.

Silver Star ... Cassie & Margaret: Annie Adams Fields has brought with her two of her employees, Cassie and Margaret.

The Silver Star, with Captain I. E. Archibald, was a steamer in the Rockland and Friendship Line, leaving at 7:30 a.m. Mondays, Wednesdays and Saturdays in the 1895 season, serving: High Island, Spruce Head, Tenant's Harbor (near Martinsville), Clark Island, Port Clyde, and Friendship. Round-trip tickets were $1.50.

Linnet: Thomas Bailey Aldrich. With him, is his wife, Lilian.

Juliette: The *Juliette* with Captain Ralph H. Crockett, was one of a pair of steamers in the Bluehill & Ellsworth Steamboat Line. These steamers left Rockland on the arrival of boats from Boston, daily except Mondays, with a stop at Isleboro. The Rockland to Ellsworth trip was about 65 miles and, with stops, took about 10 hours. Probably, there was a Camden stop, though this is not listed in the 1895 advertisement.

Crabby: A Jewett family dog.

Becca: Rebecca Young. Key to Correspondents.

Lizzie: *Lizzie*: Typically, when Jewett refers to Lizzie, she means a frequent Jewett employee in South Berwick, Lizzie Pray, or Elizabeth Jervis Gilman. Key to Correspondents.

pin pen: This term may be of Jewett's invention. It seems clear that she usually uses a fountain pen, and this is a different kind of pen, which, by implication is smaller. It is possible that she refers to a ball point pen, which was patented in 1888.

birthday: Jewett's birthday was actually several days before this letter, on 3 September.

The manuscript of this letter is held by Historic New England in the Jewett Family Papers MS014.02.01.

Sarah Orne Jewett to Sarah Wyman Whitman

Sunday September 8th
1895

[*Begin letterhead, small caps, green ink*]
The Anchorage,
Martinsville, Maine.
[*End letterhead*]

You would not think from this handsome and large paper what a small plain bushy corner of the world this letter comes from.

The golden rod is all in bloom and there is a lighthouse ^(Monhegan)^* off the coast and the Anchorage is a nice story-and-half house that stands in a green field that slopes down to the sea. I sleep in a little back bedroom whose window 'gives on' a lane and a stone wall and a potato field, where the figures of J. F. Millet* work all day against a very un-French background of the pointed firs that belong to Maine like the gray ledges they are rooted in. I dont think you would like it very well

[*Page 2*]

unless you fell to painting and then -- Oh my! -- I dont wish for you as I do in most places -- perhaps it is because the landscape is usually without figures -- in spite of the potato field. But oh! I have found such a corner of this world under a spruce tree where I sit for hours together, and neither thought nor good books can keep me from watching a little golden bee that seems to live quite alone and to be laying up honey against cold weather. He may have been idle and now feels belated, and goes and comes from his little hole in the ground close by my knee, so that I can put my hand over his front door and shut him out, but I promise you and him that I never will. He took me for a boulder the first day we met, but after he flew round and round he understood things and knows

[*Page 3*]

now that I come and go as other boulders do by glacial action and can do him no harm -- A very handsome little bee and often to be thought of by me, come winter. ---

Did you read Bourget's address on his admission to the Academie?* I have had it for ever so long, waiting for the right day: there was so much of the cramped newspaper type, that wind weather and the planets had to be all right! It is wonderfully interesting, quite a noble speech I think, and quite his own heart and hope talking out loud as if there were no people there. = This he

[*Page 4*]

says once: -- ... "Tant il est vrai que le principe de la création intellectuelle comme de toutes les autres reside dans le don magnanime et irraisonné de soi-même, dans l'élan attendri vers les autres, dans la chaleur de l'enthousiasme, et que le génie de l'artiste est comme toutes les grandes choses du monde: un acte de foi et d'amour."* ------ Some day I wish we could talk about this address of Bourgets -- there are things about it which touch one's heart very much. Some day next winter perhaps? in the studio! = In fact I almost wish for you this day in Martinsville! Now there are figures: 1 Mis' Bachelder and 2 Mis' Clarks all within easy call and one Mis' Clark keeps ducks and we are eating them up. I now hear the happy quacks of the survivors. You can buy little lobsters for 2 cents apiece. I merely mention it to a careful housekeeper, and to make you

[*Up the left margin of page 1*]

know the reasons why I may stay until the late November frosts. With much love

Yours ever
S.O.J.

Notes

Monhegan: Monhegan is an island in Maine, not far from Martinsville. The Monhegan lighthouse was built in 1850.

J. F. Millet: Jean-François Millet (1814-1875), French painter.

Bourget's address ... Academie: In the

manuscript, the word Academie *may* be underlined twice. Furthermore, part of each line of the French quotation is underlined, suggesting that Jewett meant to present it all as underlined.

Paul Bourget (1852-1935) was elected to the French Academy in 1894. His *Discourse de Réception à l'Académie Française* appeared in 1895. He says: "So true is it that the principle of intellectual creation, like all others, consists in the magnanimous and unreasoned gift of one-self, in the compassionate impulse toward others, in the warmth of enthusiasm, and that the genius of the artist is like all the great things of the world: an act of faith and love." (Translation by Carla Zecher)

Mis' Bachelder ... Mis' Clarks: Paula Blanchard in *Sarah Orne Jewett*, identifies Mrs. Rozilla Trussel Harris Batchelder (1837-1922), wife of Nathan Batchelder (1828-1900), a favorite friend in Tenants Harbor, ME (pp. 275-6). The spelling of names varies in different sources; these spellings are from "Find-a-Grave."

Mrs. Clark, the purveyor of ducks, has not yet been identified.

The manuscript of this letter is held by the Houghton Library of Harvard University, Cambridge. MA: Whitman, Sarah (Wyman) 1842-1904, recipient. 25 letters; 1892-[1900] & [n.d.]. Sarah Orne Jewett additional correspondence, 1868-1930. MS Am 1743.1 (126). Annie Fields included part of this letter in *Letters of Sarah Orne Jewett* (1911).

Annie Fields Transcription

You would not think from this handsome and large paper what a small plain bushy corner of the world this letter comes from. The golden-rod is all in bloom, and there is a lighthouse (Monhegan) off the coast, and the Anchorage is a nice story-and-half house that stands in a green field that slopes down to the sea. I sleep in a little back bedroom whose window gives on a lane and a stone wall and a potato field, where the figures of J. F. Millet work all day against a very unFrench background of the pointed firs that belong to Maine, like the grey ledges they are rooted in. I don't think you would like it very well unless you fell to painting and then -- Oh my! -- I don't wish for you as I do in most places -- perhaps it is because the landscape is usually without figures -- in spite of the potato field. But oh! I have found such a corner of this world, under a spruce tree, where I sit for hours together, and neither thought nor good books can keep me from watching a little golden bee, that seems to live quite alone, and to be laying up honey against cold weather. He may have been idle and now feels belated, and goes and comes from his little hole in the ground close by my knee, so that I can put my hand over his front door and shut him out, -- but I promise you and him that I never will. He took me for a boulder the first day we met; but after he flew round and round he understood things, and knows now that I come and go as other boulders do, by glacial action, and can do him no harm. A very handsome little bee and often to be thought of by me, come winter.

Did you read Bourget's address on his admission to the *Académie*? I have had it for ever so long, waiting for the right day; there was so much of the cramped newspaper type, that wind, weather and the planets had to be all right. It is wonderfully interesting, quite a noble speech, I think, and quite his own heart and hope talking out loud, as if there were no people there. Thus he says once: "Tant il est vrai que le principe de la création intellectuelle comme de toutes les autres reside dans le don magnanime et irraisonné de soi-même, dans l'élan attendri vers les autres, dans la chaleur de l'enthousiasme, et que le génie de l'artiste est comme toutes les grandes choses du monde: un acte de foi et d'amour." Some day I wish we could talk about this address of Bourget's. There are things about it which touch one's heart very much.

Carrie Jewett Eastman to Mary Rice Jewett and Sarah Orne Jewett

Saturday.
[*1895*]*

Dear Sisters,

Its quite early, but I cant seem to sleep! I was so glad to get your letter Mary and that Sarah is getting on so well. She must be glad to have you up with her. Before I forget it, your little Guiney book didn't come from Estes & Lauriat* neither did my [Peary *corrected*] Journal,* so I must think of something else for B. Jacqués.* I hope to go once to Hansons* today, and see if I can pick up anything. I didn't feel like it yesterday, and wanted to go awfully.

[*Page 2*]

and then I guess I will have a dinner with Frances,* and I can see to some of the things over there, and what there is. Its, of course, harder, to go sort of half way, as I have had to do, than if I could have gone right through the list. I shall get the little thing done for Annie Barker,* and I long

for you to see it. Theodore has it in mind to go to Exeter today. He came home wild over the play at the Academy last night. He said it was full, and evidently a great

[*Page 3*]

success, he and [Tompy *?*]* being ushers, and had "all they could do." I sent you a little box & letter from Newark. [Noonians *?*]* yesterday. I hope you got Thiders umbrella [case / cane *?*], but I haven't opened it yet. Becca goes today, as Lizzie comes, and Elsie & Millie* are expected for the day, on account of Dentist, and pleasure -- and she is overset, feeling she ought to ask them for Sunday, but knows Lizzie don't want them, being tired &c. So I guess Lizzie's feeling will conquer. Tous.* is vary [*intended* very]

[*Page 4*]

active, all over the bed, banging everything in high spirits. The best thing I have got to tell, is of the call from Mrs. Rollins late yesterday afternoon. And she had a struggle to get here, on account of Miss Simpson being very [jealous of *?*] the Jewetts [and she dodging here *?*] to get in by herself. She had a nice [little letter *?*] from Frank who had actually been to the funeral, and another from Harriett, saying how pleased they were ^to have Frank^ -- and that Annie hoped to come on here to Aunt Ellen,* a season after she gets

[*Page 5*]

settled. Isn't that nice, for a sister, and every body elses{?} [Lottie Thorne *?*]* is going there for a little while. I don't know when she may ever come, only it pleased poor Mrs Rollins beyond anything to think she was the one Annie was to flee to, as she has hard feelings -- you know, and Annie right in the midst of all her trouble now, was thoughtful enough to send me word. Mrs Rollins should have her barrel. Even [tho *?*] it had to be a little late.

[*Page 6*]

But Mrs. Rollins* had had a fearful time with Simpson ^and ugly^, who [*underlined and unrecognized word* cursed *?*] her on account of having Annie* come, and she couldn't have her at all. I said horrid things, being curious & jealous. Yesterday morning Mrs Lewis* was here a long time, and wants me to write Liddy* to know of a boarding place for Phil.* in Brunswick,* as he is going to study medicine, only they dont want to be talking about it yet. In the afternoon I had a long call from Matildy,* and

[*Page 7*]

her, Matildy only being up for two nights -- or one night -- I guess. I couldn't really find out anything of [Walter *?*]. They or [else *?*], seems to feel he is a little stronger. Becca* seems to be washing unduly, by the noise in her room! before going home. I think she seems to have got more cold, as she is stuffed & coughs much more but one can't speak of it, Mary. Last evening Helen [*Unrecognized name*]* called, looking so pretty, and is happy at a 3 weeks vacation. When I was just coming up to bed, being

[*Page 8*]

dead tired, when Mrs Mower and Kate Sanborn* came -- and sat till 9. Sammy having the fever, as you may know. I was just about dead. Frances has been in & out. Mr. Tucker* has had an offish fit for a few days, & yesterday appeared to tell me of Robbies* being awfully sick [*unreadable insertion*] with two bad fits, and I guess came near dying -- so that has been the matter. He had one the day before you went, but "didnt tell Mary," and another since. As far as I could find out, it must have been indigestion. But Kings [babe or baby *?*] had 3, and no more so John has hopes, poor soul --

Love for you both from Carrie

[*Bottom right margin of page 4*.] Forever love.

Notes

1895: This year of composition is inferred from the reference to Philip Lewis beginning study toward the medical degree he completed in 1898. The reference to Peary's journal, which appeared in 1895 supports this inference. However, it is possible that this letter was written at almost any time in the 1895 - spring 1896 period, when Theodore Eastman is known to have been a student at Berwick Academy, making it likely that he would usher at a drama performance. See notes below.

little Guiney book ... Estes & Lauriat: Estes and Lauriat was a 19th-century Boston publisher and bookseller. See Dana Estes in Key to Correspondents. It is difficult to know which of Louise Guiney's books is meant (see Key to Correspondents). Here are the likely choices:

A Roadside Harp (1893, poetry)
A Little English Gallery (1895, essays)
Robert Louis Stevenson (1895, biography, with Alice Brown)
Lovers' Saint Ruth's and Three Other Tales (1895, short stories)
Nine Sonnets Written at Oxford (1895, poetry)

Peary Journal: Probably *My Arctic Journal* (1894) by the American explorer, Robert E. Peary (1856-1920).

Hansons: In the late 19th century, Hanson's was a South Berwick pharmacy.

B. Jacqués: This person has not yet been identified. The Jewetts were acquainted with Emma D. Jaques (1849-1937) and her husband Dr. Edwin D. Jaques (1841-1932).

Frances: The Jewetts were acquainted with many women of this name. It would seem reasonable to guess that this is "Fanny Gilman" of Portland. See Mrs. Helen Williams Gilman in Key to Correspondents.

Annie Barker: Annie Barker was a South Berwick neighbor about whom rather little is known. She frequently helped out at the Jewett houses.

[*Tompy*] Theodore Eastman was friends with this South Berwick boy. See Mary Rice Jewett's letter to Sarah Orne Jewett of 4 August 1892.

Newark ... [Noonians ?]: Jewett's acquaintance in Newark is not yet known, and the unrecognized name remains untraceable.

Becca ... Lizzie: "Becca" usually refers to Rebecca Young. Elizabeth Cutts Parks (1831-1918) was a neighbor and frequent family helper.

Elsie & Millie: These individuals remain unidentified.

Tous: Apparently a Jewett family dog, possibly Touser.

Frank ... Harriet ... Annie ... Aunt Ellen: These individuals remain unidentified.

Mrs. Rollins ... Simpson ... Annie: Richard Cary says: "Ellen Augusta Lord Rollins (1835-1922) lived at Main and Young streets in South Berwick, within sight of Miss Jewett's home." Miss Simpson remains unidentified, but she may be connected to a local Baptist minister, so far known only as Mr. Simpson.

Annie presumably is the Annie Barker mentioned earlier in the letter.

Mrs Lewis ... Liddy ... Phil ... Brunswick: Katharine Lewis was the wife of the long-time Congregational pastor in South Berwick, George Lewis. Key to Correspondents. Their son, Philip Prescott Lewis (1870-1926), like his father, studied at Bowdoin College in Brunswick, ME, completing a medical degree (1898), and practicing in Gorham, ME. Presumably, then, Caroline plans to write to her cousin, Elizabeth (Liddy) Jervis Gilman in Brunswick for help in finding room and board for Philip.

Matildy ... Walter: Caroline's topic here is difficult to discern. Her association of Matilda and Walter suggest she may be reporting about Matilda Travers and her husband, Walter Gay. See Susan Travers in Key to Correspondents.

Helen: In the absence of a recognizable last name, this person remains unidentified.

Mrs Mower and Kate Sanborn ... Sammy having the fever: For Annie Elizabeth Caldwell Mower (1848-1932), Key to Correspondents. Kate F. Sanborn (1848-1915), a South Berwick neighbor, was the daughter of Dr. Caleb Sanborn (1814-1871). The identity of Sammy remains unknown.

Mr. Tucker ... Robbies ... Kings: John Tucker was a Jewett family employee and Robby was a Jewett family dog. Perhaps Caroline means that the Kings have a dog that has survived three fits, or that a puppy of a dog named King so suffered? If the Kings are neighbors, they have not been identified. Key to Correspondents.

The manuscript of this letter is held by Historic New England in the Jewett Family Papers MS014.02.01.

Sarah Wyman Whitman to Sarah Orne Jewett
Fragment

September 17, 1895.

I make little fugitive sketches of things seen from car windows as I fly back and forth from glass and marble shops -- or of a belated moon which waits for the game of billiards to be over and then comes creeping from the rim of earth, smoky with earth's vapors, but burning with O such inward fire!

These things console me; and I so report to you. This is one of the summers when there is nothing to tell unless you tell everything. I think I have felt more *molten* within, if you'll forgive so clumsy a term, than in any summer I ever spent, yet it would puzzle me to mention any one incident. In fact there have been none, only persistent tumultuous feeling, highly controlled as must ever be and non-resultant, save perhaps for some inner mobilization.

Notes

This transcription appears in *Letters*, Sarah Wyman Whitman. Cambridge, MA: Riverside Press, 1907, "Letters to Sarah Orne Jewett: 1882-1903," pp. 61-109.

Sarah Orne Jewett to Arthur Griffin Stedman

[*28 September 1895*]*

Dear Mr. Stedman

I am so glad that you like the little story.

In haste with sincere regard

S. O. Jewett

South Berwick
[28 *?*] September --

Notes

1895: This letter seems associated with Jewett to Stedman of 11 April and 6 November of 1895. In 1895, Jewett provided four stories to the Bachellor Syndicate for which Stedman acted as agent: "A Dark Night" in February, "Little French Mary" in June, "The Night before Thanksgiving" in November, and "An Empty Purse" in December.

This transcription is from a photocopy held by the Maine Women Writer's Collection, University of New England, Letters from Sarah Orne Jewett, 1875-1890, Box 4, Folder 159, Burton Trafton Jewett Research Collection. Trafton's notes indicate that the manuscript is held by Columbia University Library, Special Collections.

Sarah Orne Jewett to Louisa Dresel

Tuesday
[*September 1895*]*

Dearest Loulie

In getting into an old corduroy jacket I found this beginning of a letter to you in the pocket and it brought back that nice out of door time so vividly that I am obliged to send it on. I don't know why it never got done -- perhaps it was mislaid!

I hope that this bright sun is shining for you -- in all ways -- as it

[*Page 2*]

is for me. I feel much better today and we have two dear elderly cousins making us a little visit. I can hear them chirping together down in the library.

I send you much love dear, and many a thought.

S. O. J.

Note

September 1895: Richard Cary points out that the unfinished letter to Dresel dated September 4, 1895, was sent to her with this explanatory note. Both pieces were likely sent after Jewett left Martinsville.

Fragment enclosed with the above letter.

[*Begin letterhead*]
THE ANCHORAGE,
MARTINSVILLE, MAINE.
[*End letterhead*]

4 September
1895 *

Dear Loulie

I dont know whether you would find this a good sketching ground but it is certainly a dear untroubled corner of the world. The house stands in a green field that slopes to the sea and we have [*corrected*] three families of neighbours and two empty little old houses pretty near and some other neighbours { -- } the Dwyer family -- a little farther off -- One Dwyer child brings the mail for fifteen cents a week and the boy catches cunners and lobsters

[2]

(small ones two cents each) and other Dwyers do other things and are a heritage from the last people who were here. And this is a story-and-a-half house and I sleep in the little back corner bedroom and look out from my bed at a stonewall across the lane and a little field where men in blue overalls have been digging potatoes and beyond them are the dark pointed firs that cover most of this coast of Maine. Dear A. F. and I say 'let's go out doors"* and after we have stayed

Notes

1895: Richard Cary provided this date.

doors": Jewett sometimes used different quotation marks to begin and end a quotation.

The manuscripts of these letters are held by Colby College Library Special Collections, Waterville, ME: JEWE.1 -- Folder A14: to Louisa Loring Dresel, 1886-1898. Richard Cary's annotated transcription appeared in "Jewett to Dresel: 33 Letters," *Colby Library Quarterly* 7:1 (March 1975), 13-49. New transcription and notes.

Sarah Orne Jewett to Louisa Dresel

[*Begin letterhead*]
THE ANCHORAGE,
MARTINSVILLE, MAINE.
[*End letterhead*]

Friday 28th Septr
[*1895*]*

Dear Loulie

I began a long letter to you when I first came and here I am just going away and it never got finished! But I have thought of you many times and wished that you could see this bit of country which to the eyes of my imagination is even better than such a place as Folly Cove.* I have had a little shop going, a nice smallish table -- right in front

[*Page 2*]

of the window of my nice little back bedroom, and I sit ^there^ now looking down a dear lane with stone walls, toward the bay. There are two masts of a schooner ^just at the end^ and there are some [wind *corrected*] bent trees growing just at the right place at the highest point of the lane where you seem to be able to jump over into the water! We have been very contented and have liked our little housekeeping so much. I have been busy with proofs and

[*Page 3*]

with a little writing but I have not got done anything ~~liked~~ what I hoped ^as much I mean!^ However, I hope to be very busy after I get settled down at home. My sister Mary has been here this last week and we have sailed and walked a great deal and had most lovely weather.

-- There does not seem to be much chance of our coming to Manchester as I think the Eatons* will stay so late in Mrs. Fields's house that they will close it themselves ^& save her the trouble!^ Mrs. Fields is coming to Berwick for awhile

[*Page 4*]

and so I doubt if we go to the shore again -- I mean go to Thunderbolt Hill. We are all the more glad to have had our lovely week in August. It was so nice to see you Loulie dear and I look back to the day with you and your mother when we had luncheon and [*deletion*] ^saw^ the sketches with very great pleasure.

With ever so much love, dear Loulie,
Yours ever affectionately,
S. O. J.

Notes

1895: This letter belongs with the series of letters Jewett wrote from the Anchorage near Martinsville, ME, in September 1895.

Associated with the letter is an envelope addressed to Dresel at Cove Hill, Beverly, MA. The date of the cancellation is partly obscured. September 1895 is reasonably clear, and the day may end with an 8, which would confirm that this letter was contained in this envelope.

Richard Cary pointed out that Jewett seems to have written the wrong day of the week or the wrong date, for 28 September 1895 fell on a Saturday.

Cove: Cary notes that "Folly Cove is on Ipswich Bay, Rockport, Cape Ann, Massachusetts, not far from the Dresels' summer cottage in Beverly."

Eaton: Cary reports that "W. S. Eaton was listed in the local newspaper as a Summer Resident at Thunderbolt Hill from August 31 to October 19 in 1895."

The manuscript of this letter is held by Colby College Library Special Collections, Waterville, ME: JEWE.1 -- Folder A14: to Louisa Loring Dresel, 1886-1898. Richard Cary's annotated transcription appeared in "Jewett to Dresel: 33 Letters," *Colby Library Quarterly* 7:1 (March 1975), 13-49. New transcription and notes.

Dame Ellen Terry to Sarah Orne Jewett

[1 *October 1895*]*

The Vendome -- Tuesday =

My dear Miss Jewett

I cannot ask you to find a [kind referral *?*] for a poor woman who is always being "rushed" -- Your lovely bookie came to me & I thank you affectionately for it -- Don't you [*underlined deletion, possibly of* envy] envy me? I am just reading The White Heron* -- I love it!

[*Page 2*]

I want you to be so good as to let me know by one line whether you or Mrs Fields wd care to have my box at the Play* for any night (or every night) this week (today it is engaged =)

Wed -- Much Ado --

Thurs -- -- Arthur

Fri -- Merchant of V.

Sat mat | Becket*

| __

On Thurs. or Friday morning I am coming down to

[*Page 3*]

Charles S^{t} to take my chance of finding you & M^{rs} Fields at home = We are very busy rehearsing "Macbeth" & it is difficult to make a prospective engagement as I'm always wanted!

Ellen Terry =

Again Thank you* for the Tales of New England --

Notes

1895: Almost certainly, Terry refers in this letter to the Lyceum Company tour of 1895-6. Henry Irving's company performed in Boston 30 September to 26 October 1895. Their American tour repertoire included all of the plays named in this letter, though *Macbeth* may not have been performed in Boston.

Jewett's letter to Sarah Wyman Whitman of Thursday 3 October reports having already seen *King Arthur*, which Terry says was performed on Thursday evening, suggesting that Jewett wrote at night, after returning from the play.

If this speculation is correct, then Terry must have written on Tuesday 1 October.

Heron: Jewett's story, "A White Heron," first appeared in her book of that title in 1886, but as Terry notes at the end, Jewett has given her *Tales of New England* (1890), which also contains that story.

Play: In this letter, Terry lists three works by British playwright William Shakespeare (1564-1616), *Much Ado About Nothing*, *The Merchant of Venice*, and *Macbeth*.

King Arthur (1895) was by British playwright and critic, J. Comyns Carr (1849-1916).

About *Becket*, there is confusion. Various sources indicate that the play was by British illustrator and sometime actor Sir John Bernard Partridge (1861-1945), but Wikipedia says nothing about his working as a playwright.

The Victoria & Albert Museum says that the play in the Irving repertoire was by British poet, Alfred Lord Tennyson (1809-1892), who indeed published a drama of that title in 1884.

Becket: Terry has drawn a wavy vertical line before Becket, extending down the page to the word "Friday."

Thank you: Terry underlined these words with a wavy line.

The manuscript of this letter is held by the Houghton Library of Harvard University, Cambridge, MA. Sarah Orne Jewett Correspondence, bMS Am 1743 Box 4, Item 209. I. Letters to Sarah Orne Jewett.

Sarah Orne Jewett to Sarah Wyman Whitman

3 October
[*1895*]*

[*Begin letterhead*]

South Berwick.
Maine.

[*End letterhead*]

I am so sorry that I shall have to miss so dear a chance of seeing you = it comes of idleness I fear, and a poor business gift which lets stories get pushed into the last minutes of time and fall over one. And now I miss this Sunday that I might have had!

[*Page 2*]

The trouble has been that all summer I could not put myself down to steady work but autumn weather is always kind, and certain things have blown away that troubled summer air.

Darling there is Every thing to say and I shall be longing to see you. Could you write a little letter someday these next two

[*Page 3*]

weeks to kind of make up to a fellow who might have seen you on a Sunday?

and loves you very much

S. O. J.

Do go to see King Arthur* -- the first three acts!

The stage pictures, as one may say, are marvellously beautiful -- & Miss Terry never played so nobly or

[*Page 4*]

with such touching sweetness & in a most difficult part -- -- it was really great playing on Tuesday night. The last of the play {is} very silly however. Irving passes away at length and most unnecessarily before an impatient audience --

Notes

1895: This date is confirmed by Jewett's report of seeing *King Arthur*. See note below, and Whitman to Jewett of 8 October 1895.

King Arthur ... Miss Terry ... Mr. Irving: *King Arthur*

(1895) was by British playwright and critic, J. Comyns Carr (1849-1916).

The theatre company of British actor/director Sir Henry Irving (1838-1905), with actor Ellen Terry (Key to Correspondents), toured *King Arthur* in the United States in 1895 after its British run. It was an illustrious production, only in part because of its world-famous acting duo. British artist Edward Burne-Jones (1833-1898) designed the sets, and composer Arthur Sullivan (1842-1900) -- of "Gilbert and Sullivan" -- composed the music. Wikipedia.

The manuscript of this letter is held by the Houghton Library of Harvard University, Cambridge, MA. bMS Am 1743 Box 6, Item 277.

Sarah Wyman Whitman to Sarah Orne Jewett

[*8 October 1895*]*

Darling: Perhaps if you had come A.F. wouldnt have had a bad cold and never come herself! and O wasn't I disappointed? and am I not disappointed still? And thanking you for your kind letter: but still feeling that literature had no Claims which Friendship ought to respect!

But seriously, beloved friend, I had wanted to see you under my roof & was [sorry *?*]: although, seriously also, I knew just how it was -- & I like to [hear *?*] with the work singing

[*Page 2*]

in your head to be done -- & I hope every falling leaf makes contribution & [*unrecognized word*] to the theme, and each white star approves the same. ----

A.F.'s absence made me so [sorry *?*]: for I had made two such good little plans for her: & [Eleanor *?*] [*unrecognized surname*] & Mrs Charlie [*unrecognized surname*] were guests, & all a-waitin': but it could not be.

I havent written because I have been at it in such a relentless fashion. People have penetrated every corner of my being: there have been book-covers (one more little may flower for the Life of Nancy*

[*Page 3*]

2

this time --) & Dr Holmes's memorial tablet,* & pastel heads of growing infants & moans of memory, and meetings, and all the other innumerable happenings of the Fall -- which I now perceive is all Summer & all Winter squeezed together!

Thus even my letter becomes a catalogue and I am somewhat ashamed even to write to you at all -- but nevertheless I love you well enough not to mind these infringements of the proprieties of friendship, &

[*Page 4*]

so shall dispatch this silly sheet . ----

Coolidge* was on the Shore as a Learned Lady of Fashion: & had much attention, & was my dear [*unrecognized word*] -- And everyone that has been or is on the Shore except you. Say one word to me -- & love me.

Sw

Studio October 8. 1895

Notes

1895: Up the right margin at the bottom of page 4, Jewett has written this note: "This letter very beautiful and nearly all printable (S.O.J.)"

Life of Nancy: Whitman designed the cover for Jewett's story collection, *The Life of Nancy* (1895), with a wreath of flowers.

Dr Holmes's memorial tablet: Oliver Wendell Holmes, Sr. Key to Correspondents.

King's Chapel in Boston erected an inscribed memorial tablet in his honor listing his accomplishments: "Teacher of Anatomy, Essayist and Poet." Above this list is a quotation from Horace's *Ars Poetica*: Miscuit Utile Dulci: "He mingled the useful with the pleasant." The inscription was provided by President Charles Eliot of Harvard. See also, Gustaf E. Linkskog, "Oliver Wendell Holmes" (1974).

While this may be the tablet that Whitman mentions, I have not been able to verify that she was involved in its design.

Coolidge: Sarah Chauncey Woolsey, who wrote under the name Susan Coolidge. Key to Correspondents.

The manuscript of this letter is held by the Houghton Library of Harvard University. Whitman, Sarah (Wyman) 1842-1904. 92 letters; [1884]-[1903] & [n.d.] Jewett, Sarah Orne, 1849-1909. Sarah Orne Jewett additional correspondence, 1868-1930. MS Am 1743.1 -107.

Transcription from *Letters of Sarah Wyman Whitman* (1907)

Part of this letter appeared on pp. 83-4.

October 8, 1895

O wasn't I disappointed and am I not disappointed still! and thanking you for your kind letter, but still feeling that Literature had no Claims which Friendship ought to respect! But seriously, beloved friend, I knew just how it was and I like to hear of the work singing in your head to be done, and I hope every falling leaf makes contribution to the Theme, and each white star approves the same. . . . I haven't written because I have been *at it* in such a relentless fashion. People have penetrated every corner of my being, there have been book-covers . . . and Dr. Holmes' memorial tablet, and pastel heads of growing infants, and moans of memory, and meetings, and all the other innumerable happenings of the Fall. Which I now perceive is all Summer and all Winter squeezed together!

Thus even my letter becomes a catalogue, and I am somewhat ashamed even to write to you at all, but nevertheless I love you well enough not to mind these infringements of the proprieties of friendship and so shall [despatch *so spelled*] this silly sheet.

Rudyard Kipling to Sarah Orne Jewett

------ Waite*
Windham Co.

Oct: 16. 1895

My dear Miss Jewett.

The Life of Nancy* came yesterday and I read it then and there. I knew and had laughed over "Fame's Little Day": seen The War Debt in one of the magazines and read The Only Rose almost with tears but the others are new to me and altogether delightful -- specially "All My Sad Captains{"}: which is a perfect title. But who am I to send you compliments? I will for a change protest. Did you in the War Debt* (serial form) put in those four lines italic at the end: because I don't remember having seen them and -- I don't like them. They explain things and I loathe an explanation. Please cut 'em out in the next edition and

[*Page 2*]

let people guess that he married Mrs Bellamy's grand daughter. I think the best of the lot in its manner (I wonder if you think this way) is "The Guests of Mrs Timms.{"} To my thinking Miss Jewett can be when she thinks fit, masculine enough to equip three small average male story-tellers and in "The Guests of Mrs Timms" she gives proof of it. It's a [kinder *?*] dry-point, firm handed work that pleases me all over.

Then the Hilton's Holiday is another of the best in another manner. It's worthwhile spending three winters in New England to be able to draw the full flavour out of your stories: and when you come to think of it, I am about the only Englishman in the business who could turn in and review such a book from the more or less inside stand point. It makes me grin sometimes when I read of some man across the water laying down possibilities and impossibilities in American tales.

[*Page 3*]

We are preparing for the winter siege, digging and sodding and hauling dirt and spreading phosphates and putting the garden to rights. I hope to get a copy of The second Jungle book* by the 10th of next month when, if you will, I will send it you. With kindest regards from my wife & myself believe me

Yours always sincerely and admiringly
Rudyard Kipling.

Owen Wister* (whose Arizona & army-post stories you must know) has looked in on us for a day. He's a splendid young man and I think he has steam enough in him to carry him a long way. Have you ever met him. He's really and truly nice and a man.

Notes

Waite: The Kiplings' temporary home in Vermont.

With this letter is an associated envelope addressed to Jewett c/o Houghton Mifflin & Co., and forwarded to South Berwick. It was canceled on 16 October 1895, then in Boston and South Berwick on 18 October.

Life of Nancy: Jewett's *The Life of Nancy* (1895). Kipling mentions most of the stories in this collection.

War Debt: Jewett *did* alter her ending, changing it in the first printing from its original appearance in *Harper's Monthly* for January 1895. The magazine ending merely hints that Tom Burton, the protagonist, may soon connect with the daughter of his southern friends, whom he never actually meets during the visit recounted in the story: "a most lovely hope was in his heart." The first printing adds several lines, including the italics Kipling mentions, making explicit that Burton met and married the woman. In the second printing however, Jewett followed Kipling's advice, removing the final italics.

Jewett's move in the first printing toward

realizing the potential romance in the magazine version may have been influenced by the 20 January 1895 letter she received from a fan, Lieutenant John Howard Wills, who wrote: "I can not but hope that you will shortly allow the agreeable hero to meet the lady who was 'the queen of her little company' and that we may be permitted to be present."

For a fuller discussion of Jewett's struggles with this story, see *After the War: Two Stories by Sarah Orne Jewett*, 2nd Edition, Sarah Orne Jewett Press, 2025.

Jungle book: According to Thomas Pinney in *The Letters of Rudyard Kipling* (1990, c. 2004), Kipling's *The Second Jungle Book* appeared in the U.S. on 9 November 1895 (p. 205).

Owen Wister: Key to Correspondents.

The manuscript of this letter is held by the Miller Library, Special Collections, Colby College, Waterville, ME: JEWE.1. New transcription and notes.

Annie Adams Fields to Lilian and Thomas Bailey Aldrich

148 Charles St. Boston
Oct. 22d 1895

Dear friends:

I am to have a little dinner on the 29th, -- Keats's birthday* -- in his memory --

Do come -- and at Seven o'clock.

Affectionately yours
Annie Fields.

Notes

Keats's birthday: British poet John Keats (1795-1821) was born on 31 October.

The manuscript of this letter is held by the Houghton Library of Harvard University: Thomas Bailey Aldrich Papers, MS Am 1429, Box 6, Items 1446-1538.

Sarah Orne Jewett to Louisa Dresel

Tuesday
[*29 October 1895*]*

Dear Loulie

"Yours received and contents noted" as the business letters say! Thank you so much for A.F.'s & my lovely pictures. The walky storkys by the brook please us both -- in fact we shall be so near a squabble if we try to part the gift that

[*Page 2*]

we mean to keep it as a little collection and each play she owns it all. Where did you get them Loulie!

= I was very busy all day yesterday and could not write to say this and now there is only time to say how much we enjoyed seeing you

[*Page 3*]

on Saturday and that we send our love to Mamma! I found yesterday a poor gouty day { -- } my shoes were tight and my temper none of the best. I hope nobody else found fault with such lovely weather!

Yours most affectionately

SOJ.

Notes

1895: This date has been penciled here in another hand. In the Morgan Library folder with this and other letters from Jewett to Dresel is an envelope cancelled on this date. Presumably a Morgan Library archivist connected this letter with the envelope.

The manuscript of this letter is held by the Morgan Library & Museum. MA 2971. Record ID: 104766 Accession Number: MA 2932.

Louise Imogen Guiney to Annie Adams Fields

[*31 October 1895*]

Dear Mrs. Fields:

I slipped your envelope, addressed to Mr. Porter of the Stevenson Memorial Committee,* in with my own script, this morn, to his colleague Mrs. Williams; and I do think, -- well, that there are not A.F.'s and S.O.J's on every bush! I am bound by every tie to the success of that fountain; and I shall not wonder if a few of us ^in Boston^ were destined to help it along beautifully. Mrs. Williams is the Dora Norton Williams to whom (and to whose goodman) "Silverado Squatters" is dedicated. In a day or two, if I may, I would like to send you, to read, her very nice letter. Meanwhile I can't thank you enough.

[*Page 2*]

What a Time it was! with such a joyful commemorating spirit abroad, better than salvos of cannon. I repent that I did not put on my little new green gown, cut in what may be described as a U* back and front! to keep Miss Whitney, and

Alice and the two white doves* company. But the regret is all swallowed up in all manner of pleasure and the blessedness of receiving, except:

1. I did so want Miss Jewett to have the Keats of the Two Chairs!

2. I wanted you to read the Adonäis! Mr. Copeland* saw the copy in my hands, and offered me that hard condition, that he would read Shelley if I would attempt La Belle Dame:* and I knew you would say "Yes', although I couldn't cross the room

[*Page 3*]

to ask you; and so I did my beggarly best with the divine lines, and purchased a golden peroration for all our [*deletion*] ears, from other than the first-intended. I wish I were to look in upon you tomorrow, or Saturday, rather! but I am plunged in ^the^ month's accounts, like Clarence* in the butt of malmsey, and only able to say here that I shall sit by in spirit, and thank you once more for one more poetical association with the House of Poets. With love to Miss Jewett, I am

Ever yours,
Louise I. G.

Auburndale, 31st Oct., 1895

Notes

Stevenson Memorial Committee: Guiney refers to Scottish author, Robert Louis Stevenson (1850- 3 December 1894). In 1895, Guiney's friend, Alice Brown (1857-1948), published *Robert Louis Stevenson: A Study*, with "prelude and postlude" by Guiney.

The Robert Louis Stevenson Memorial in San Francisco at one time included a drinking fountain.

In a letter to American artist Bruce Porter (1865-1953) of December 1895, Guiney wrote about an inscription she hoped to have placed on the memorial, and she lamented the difficulty of raising money to complete the work (*Letters of Louise Imogen Guiney*, p. 86). Having Jewett's and Fields's names listed among contributors would be helpful to fund-raising.

Shortly after their marriage Fanny Osbourne and Stevenson honeymooned at an abandoned mining camp on Mount Saint Helena, California. He wrote about this experience in *The Silverado Squatters* (1883). Their friends, Virgil and Dora Williams, had suggested this inexpensive and healthful retreat as both newlyweds were recovering from serious illness and in financial difficulty.

U: Guiney has drawn a large U that could be mistaken for a V; above it she has printed in small letters: "you".

Miss Whitney ... Alice ... two white doves: Presumably the two white doves are Fields and Jewett. Alice is American author, Alice Brown (1857-1948). Miss Whitney is American sculptor Anne Whitney (1821-1915).

Keats of the Two Chairs: Probably Guiney refers to a print of Joseph Severn's (1793-1879) portrait of British poet John Keats (1795-1821) with two chairs. Keats was the author of the poem Guiney read at this gathering, "La Belle Dame Sans Merci."

"Adonäis," the poem Guiney hoped Fields would read is by English poet Percy Bysshe Shelley (1792-1822).

Charles Townsend Copeland (1860-1952) was a critic and a professor of English at Harvard University.

Clarence: George Plantagenet, Duke of Clarence (1449-1478) was brother to the English kings, Edward IV and Richard III. He was executed for treason. He is best remembered, perhaps, as a victim of Richard III in William Shakespeare's play of that name, where he is said to have been executed by drowning in Malmsey wine.

The manuscript of this letter is held by the Huntington Library, San Marino, CA, in the James T. Fields collection Box 25: mss FI 1609 .

Sarah Orne Jewett to Mellen Chamberlain

1 November 1895
[*Begin letterhead*]
South Berwick, Maine
[*End letterhead*]

My dear Judge Chamberlain*

I have just received your very kind note -- at the moment when you will be waiting for me at the Library. I came home some days ago and I thought that I told Mr.

[*Page 2*]

Putnam and Mr. Knapp that I should only be working at the Library for two or three days ---- but even if I did there is no reason why they should have charged their minds with remembering it!

I am so sorry that you should have had the trouble of going to the

[*Page 3*]

room and being kept waiting, all to no purpose.

I shall not be in town again before the middle of the month; perhaps I can write you then and ask if I may come some day when you are to be at your Library room at any rate ? . . .

With my kind regards I am yours truly
S. O. Jewett*

Notes

Chamberlain: John Alden introduces this letter in his article: "Miss Jewett again visited the Boston Public Library in the fall of 1895 -- Chamberlain had resigned as Librarian in 1890, but a note to him from his successor, Herbert Putnam, of October 25, refers to her researches there on John Paul Jones." Jewett at this time apparently was working already on *The Tory Lover* (1901), in which John Paul Jones is a featured character. Jones (1747-1792) was a naval captain in the American revolutionary navy.

Knapp: Alden notes that Arthur Mason Knapp (1839-1898) was the "Keeper of Bates Hall," then the main reading room of the Boston Public Library. Wikimedia Commons.

Jewett: Alden includes at the end of his transcription the following sentence, which does not currently appear in the manuscript: "I wish that we might sometimes see you. I have not been in town this winter however except for some brief visits." As Jewett did not usually think of the beginning of November as "winter," it seems unlikely that this sentence belongs to this letter.

The manuscript of this letter is held by the Boston Public Library Archives & Special Collections: MS Am 1400, Mellen Chamberlain Papers, Box 14, Folder: 671. An annotated transcription by John Alden appeared in *Boston Public Library Quarterly* 9 (1957): 86-96. New transcription and notes.

Sarah Orne Jewett to Sarah Wyman Whitman

Sunday night 3 Nov [*1895*]*
[*Begin letterhead*]
South Berwick.
Maine.
[*End letterhead*]

I was so glad to get your letter yesterday dear -- it quite surprised me at the very end of a poky-looking great handful that came from the post office in a busy moment. I was wishing to hear about the visit to Stonehurst* but to be very frank I never expected to, no not this good while because people are busy in town -- and had better be in the country though they dally more than she should and writing and

[*Page 2*]

other things lag along.

I asked Theodore* where he was in his Greek and how he was getting on: " Why -- Homer!{"} says Theodore ^"and^ the Goddess Athena called the long-haired Greeks to war yesterday*"* -- He looked quite gallant himself over it, and I began to feel a little as if things were going on after all. [I have *corrected*] felt better all day by reason of that classic answer. Our conversation is so apt to be of right tackles and quarter backs and fake points that anything else comes in with

[*Page 3*]

peculiar freshness --

This being enough of me and Theodore I now say that I wish you was here this Sunday night -- I am keeping house quite alone for a week or two and I [think *blotted*] of those I likes the best -- the only thing is to dream true as taught by the story of Peter Ibbetson;* but indeed one sometimes is ready to slight the dear pleasures of remembrance through eagerness for new life -- for a new sight ^of a face^ and a faster hold of hands.

Sunday is

[*Page 4*]

always a good day here in the village -- The street takes on the look it used to wear always, years ago. I counted on a long walk over the hill but a scud of snow came in the night and spoiled ones footing on the pasture turf. I hoped that Sally Norton* [might *?*] be here for a day or two just now but she was prevented and the little snow storm was more than half a consolation because we should have wished to be out of doors ----

Oh darling dont mind jobbing. I do so long to have you keep at your work{.} I long to have you paint these later autumn colors. I never

[*Up the left margin and across the top margin of page 1*]

can feel that it is right about the jobbing. Going to see people married is jobbing { -- } everything is jobbing but just painting, and so I say as cross as can be with something that hurts in my throat -- But I dont think I shall ever be [so *?*]

[*Up the left margin of page 2*]

cross again, and I say that I knew you would like Bourgets*

[*Up the left margin and across the top margin of page 3*]

paper and you can keep it ever so much longer only not lose it -- Good night and I love you very much

S.O.J.

Notes

1895: Jewett's handwriting is puzzling here, but "1895" probably is what she wrote. This reading is supported a little by the notes below, especially the one on Bourget. Known letters from Whitman to Jewett in the preceding months of 1895 emphasize the number of projects Whitman had in hand, many of which did not involve making art.

Stonehurst: The estate of Helen Bigelow Merriman. Key to Correspondents.

Theodore: Theodore Jewett Eastman is reading the Greek poet, Homer, *The Iliad* (c. 7th century B.C.).

Peter Ibbetson: George Louis Palmella Busson du Maurier's 1891 novel. Key to Correspondents.

Sally Norton: Sara Norton. Key to Correspondents.

Bourgets paper: In a letter of 8 September 1895, Jewett recommended to Whitman French author Paul Bourget's 1894 *Discourse de Réception à l'Académie Française*, upon being elected to the French Academy. Wikipedia.

The manuscript of this letter is held by the Houghton Library of Harvard University, Cambridge, MA. bMS Am 1743 Box 6, Item 277.

Sarah Orne Jewett to Louisa Dresel

Sunday night
[*Nov 3, 1895*]*

Dear Loulie

Mrs. Fields wrote me about Two Noble Lives* but she is mistaken about my having it -- I think if she read it it must have belonged to Mrs. Cabot.* I have looked about [our *corrected*] book cases thinking that my sister may have had it, [but *corrected*] I don't see it -- if she has it it is lent! A Noble Life and Three Generations of English Women* are the

[*Page 2*]

nearest approach that I can make! I wish that I could hear if your mother is better yet. This scud of snow which fell last night ought to make all lamish folkses feel better -- the air has been so chilly & snowy. I wish you were here to spend the evening with me -- I happen to be keeping house alone just now -- but I ought to

[*Page 3*]

say the rest of the evening.

I am so sorry that I cant send the book --

Yours affectionately
S.O.J.

Notes

1895: This date is penciled here in another hand. With this letter is an envelope addressed to Mifs Dresel at 328 Beacon Street, Boston, and cancelled in Boston on 4 November 1895. November 3 fell on a Sunday in 1895.

Two Noble Lives: Jewett and Dresel could refer to two books of this title. *Two Noble Lives: John Wicliffe and Martin Luther* by David J. Deane was published sometime before 1890. *The Story of Two Noble Lives, being Memorials of Charlotte, Countess Canning, and Louisa, Marchioness of Waterford*, by Augustus J. C. Hare, appeared in 1893.

Mrs. Cabot: Susan Burley Cabot. Key to Correspondents.

A Noble Life … English Women: Two possibilities for the first title are: *A Noble Life* (novel, c. 1880), by Dinah Maria Mulock Craik, and *A Noble Life* (poems, 1894), by George Clinton Rowe.

Three Generations of English Women: Memoirs and Correspondence of Susannah Taylor, Sarah Austin and Lady Duff Gordon (before 1892) by Janet Ann Ross.

The manuscript of this letter is held by the Princeton University Library, Princeton, NJ: Robert H. Taylor Collection of English and American Literature RTC01, Box 10, Folder 12.

Sarah Orne Jewett to Arthur Griffin Stedman

6 Novr 1895

[*Begin letterhead*]
South Berwick, Maine
[*End letterhead*]

Dear Mr. Stedman

I was beginning to feel worried about the little Thanksgiving (which I forgot to have registered)* and now I have seen it advertised so that I know that you received it --

It has always been your

[*Page 2*]

most kind custom to write at once on the receipt of a manuscript so that I wonder if I have missed a letter from you. I was away last week and my letters had to follow me about

[*Page 3*]

I ordered a copy of my new book of stories* to be sent to you which I hope you received. Please do tell your father* that I spent last evening most delightfully with his new Anthology.*

Notes

story ... registered: Jewett speaks of her story "The Night before Thanksgiving," which appeared under distribution by the Bachellor Syndicate, for which Stedman acted as agent. It appears that Jewett usually submitted her stories by registered mail, in order to have notice of their delivery.

book of stories: Jewett's new book in late 1895 would be *The Life of Nancy*.

your father: Edmund C. Stedman. Key to Correspondents.

new Anthology: Edmund C. Stedman edited the *Victorian Anthology* (1895), a collection of poetry which provided important reading during the 1896 winter cruise on which Jewett, Fields, and T. B. Aldrich were guests on the yacht of Henry L. Pierce.

The manuscript of this letter is held by the Columbia University (New York) Library in Special Collections, Jewett. Transcription from a microfilm copy and annotation by Terry Heller, Coe College. A note appearing with this manuscript says that this letter has had the signature cut off.

Sarah Wyman Whitman to Sarah Orne Jewett
Fragment

November 12, 1895.
In the train for Newport.

I have indeed had a wonderful little vacation, seeing the landscape which is always to me the largest, the most full of intimation; and at Newport the "passion of Autumn" is more felt than anywhere I think in the world! The sea turns from violets into pansies; the great clouds entrench themselves in more substantial ramparts. And I am full of gratitude for having a few days of wonder before the actual and immediate come rattling about my ears.

Note

This transcription appears in *Letters*, Sarah Wyman Whitman. Cambridge, MA: Riverside Press, 1907, "Letters to Sarah Orne Jewett: 1882-1903," pp. 61-109.

Louise Imogen Guiney to Annie Adams Fields

[*14 November 1895*]

Dear Mrs. Fields:

The Poet* wishes to say that people stared at him consumedly in the cars, but that he didn't mind it much, and was conveyed in a cab to his new home, where he has taken up a temporary abode on an ancient 'whatnot' in the Poeticule's study, with ^a brown^ Spenser under one arm, and ^a green^ Shakespeare under the other, and a garland of creeping-jenny several years old about his placid brow. He hopes soon to be acclimated, and sends you much love and many thanks for your attentions to him in preparing him for the journey Selah.*

That eve I brought him out, I had been to the College Club, on an unexpected and welcome invitation. I wished for Miss Jewett, for Mr. Bancroft* sang any number of those old magical

[*Page 2*]

Celtic songs, among which, however, he failed to number

'Full high in Kilbride'.

But we had 'The Brown-Breasted Pearl', and 'Little Mary Cassidy', and 'The Castle of Dromore', and 'Tara', and 'The Wearing o' the Green', and much else which was good.

Mrs. Williams* tells me that Mrs. Stevenson sails for Honolulu today, with Lloyd Osbourne, who has been and is very ill with some mysterious disease which they <u>know</u> must be heartbreak for Stevenson; for it began when his friend of friends died. Is it not interesting and touching? and does it not make one, somehow, love that Lloyd Osbourne?

Love to you. I am 'slogging'! <u>not</u> at my own appointed trade. Yours

Louise I. G.

14<u>th</u> Nov., 1895.

Notes

Poet: The identity of this poet has not yet been discovered.

Selah: A somewhat mysterious biblical word, often appearing at the end of a Psalm.

Bancroft: Frederick W. Bancroft (d. March 1914) was a popular collector, interpreter, and performer of Celtic songs. Though this is not certain, it seems likely that he is Frederick Wallace Bancroft (1856-1914).

Boston's Association of Collegiate Alumnae (founded in 1882) was the predecessor organization of the American Association of University Women. In 1895, it was called the College Club and had a meeting room on Beacon St. in Boston.

The songs Guiney lists were traditional and recent Irish music. 'The Brown-Breasted Pearl" is not listed as a known Celtic song; perhaps Guiney meant "The Snowy Breasted Pearl."

Mrs. Williams: Dora Williams was a close friend of Scottish author, Robert Louis Stevenson, who died in Samoa on 3 December 1894. His wife, Fanny Osbourne Stevenson (1840-1914), had three children from her first marriage, the second being Samuel Lloyd Osbourne (1868-1947).

The manuscript of this letter is held by the Huntington Library, San Marino, CA, in the James T. Fields collection Box 25: mss FI 1610 .

Edith Matilda Thomas to Annie Adams Fields

West New Brighton Staten Island N.Y.
Nov. 17th
[*1895*]*

My dear Mrs. Fields:

When you remembered me with the lovely gift of your last volume of verse -- I was abroad, & the book was held till my return. Coming up from the country I found it waiting for me, this fall, with the dews of remembrance & the fragrance of Hymettus* upon it. Thank you warmly for it -- & the many exquisite thoughts it contains -- for briefest as well as longest -- (I'm thinking of the consummate [*unrecognized word*] in "Changing Skies": -- Indeed -- I am most grateful.

I hope you are quite well -- & how naturally this hope includes Miss Jewett [-- *?*] to both of you I remain --

Faithfully Yours --
Edith M. Thomas

Notes

1895: This is the year, the book Fields has given Thomas was published: *The Singing Shepherd,* which contains the short poem, "Changing Skies."

Hymettus: A mountain range in Greece.

The manuscript of this letter is held by the Houghton Library of Harvard University, Cambridge, MA. bMS Am 1743 Box 7, Item 322, III. Letters to Annie Adams Fields.

Sarah Orne Jewett to Alfred Ernest Keet

148 Charles Street
Boston 18 November
[*1895*]*

My dear Mr Keet

I send you Madame Blanc's paper* which I have had translated as well as possible and worked over to the best of my own ability, wishing all the time that the charming style of the original manuscript could be better kept.

[*Page 2*]

The proofs may be sent to me at this address, when they are ready; for the present I shall be still in the country (at South Berwick, Maine.)* and I beg that you will call upon me at any time if I can do anything further about the paper.

Yours very truly,
Sarah Orne Jewett

Notes

1895: Richard Cary assigned this date. See note below.

paper: Marie Thérèse Blanc had visited the U.S. in 1893-4.

Cary identified the article to which Jewett refers as "Family Life in America," which appeared in *Forum*, XXI (March 1896), 1-20. He notes that this was "a condensation of her series 'upon the condition of women in the United States,' published in the *Revue des Deux Mondes* during 1895."

Maine: Someone has underlined the address in red pencil, probably Mr. Keet.

The manuscript of this letter is held by Colby College Special Collections, Waterville, ME: JEWE.1. Richard Cary included his transcription in *Sarah Orne Jewett Letters.* New transcription and notes.

Sarah Wyman Whitman to Sarah Orne Jewett

November 22. 1895*
1:30 AM --
which makes it Nov. 23

Darling I dont know why, but I was sure you were not coming to the Studio Tuesday, and ~~so~~ I loitered to do errands on the way, & so missed you: I was awfully disappointed -- And perhaps this message is mainly to mention this fact, though [there *corrected*] are other impulses which tend in the same directions: and move me at the end of a day long and arduous to send a word which may come running in of a Saturday afternoon and which will speak of love.

After I missed you on a Tuesday I fell to work and began thinking of the Winter -- a thought I have not hitherto allowed myself: because that way madness lay. But now I grow bolder and venture to plan somewhat for things to be. And to think of the Window* in

[*Page 2*]

a thousand different ways: a way of thinking through which I must pass before I decide upon one way. --- And I have now had definite talk with the powers at Trinity, & there is no doubt that the Class will be allowed to put its memorial to Mr. Brooks,* there, in the triple window which we have in ~~own~~ our own room. So that is for the immediate future. And I guess not much portrait painting this year -- except that it is never safe to prophesy! But enough of Shop.

I have been this evening to dine at Shady Hill with that hot, pulsing and amazing creature R. Kipling: and he was exceeding interesting, real and full of talk. He seemed in fact, like a focus of creative energy: with that dark imaginative eye behind the glass. I had never seen the Banjo Song,* which he recited in a sort of still, molten way, and which I think the most [human *or* humane]

[*Page 3*]

and large word ---- albeit couched in the short syllables of a sort of refrain -- he has ever written. --- It all made me feel very strangely, as I came in town again, under a gray sky. --

You did not show me his letter. But perhaps you will? and perhaps you will tell me when you are coming up, if once before the Fair,* & then at the Fair -- which is [twict *so written*].

Who is Woodrow Wilson who writes the best thing ever said about Bagehot in the Atlantic?* & do you know if Copeland was the man who wrote therein lately a brief summary of Bessy Costell?* I think Mrs. Ward has given a fresh turn on the wheel, so far as strength and texture in the fabric of her work goes -- Sir George Trevelyan* opens with a stout clutch on her material and firm and easy

[*Page 4*]

movement. ---- It seems a very live world to me to-night, as you see, my friend: and I am dying for talk and those things which come with speech & companionship when one knows there is everything to be said. A hot silence has some gleams of delight in it: but one is left rather like a crater thereafter. ---

But my one word is made of many syllables and I [must *?*] reduce it to two and say Goodnight.

Shall I not say also God bless you?

SW

Notes

1895: This manuscript is in pencil.

An envelope associated with this letter is addressed to Jewett in South Berwick, ME, and cancelled 23 November 1895. Notes have been penciled on the front of the envelope. At the top appears: "Letters of Mrs Whitman some marked for selection or quotation by S.O.J." At the bottom appears: "Kipling ---- The hot silence that makes one feel like a crater afterward)".

the Window: Whitman probably refers to the *Brimmer* window, destined for the transept of Memorial Hall at Harvard University, for which she received the commission in 1895.

the Class ... its memorial to Mr. Brooks: Almost certainly this refers to the Phillips Brooks Memorial Window that Whitman designed for the Parish Room at Trinity Church, Boston. According to Virginia Raguin, this window was a gift of Whitman and her Bible Class, and was installed at Easter, 1896. (*Sarah Wyman Whitman 1842-1904*, p. 190).

Shady Hill ... R. Kipling ... Banjo Song: Shady Hill was the family home of Charles Eliot Norton (1827-1908) in Cambridge, MA. He was co-editor of the *North American Review* (1863-1868) and then professor of literature and art at Harvard University. Key to Correspondents.

Rudyard Kipling (1865-1936) published "The

Song of the Banjo" in 1894. It begins:

> You couldn't pack a Broadwood half a mile --
> You mustn't leave a fiddle in the damp --
> You couldn't raft an organ up the Nile,
> And play it in an Equatorial swamp.

the Fair: It is likely Whitman refers to a church fair at Trinity Church, Boston. Such charity fairs, offering donated crafts and other items for sale, often took place as the Christmas holiday approached.

Woodrow Wilson ... Bagehot ... Atlantic: Thomas Woodrow Wilson (1856-1924) in 1895 was professor of law and political economy at Princeton University. He later became President of the United States (1913-1921). Wilson's essay on Walter Bagehot was "A Literary Politician" *Atlantic Monthly* 76 (November 1895) pp. 668-80.

Walter Bagehot (1826-1877), an important influence on Wilson's thought, was a British journalist and essayist, writing about government, economics, and literature.

Copeland ... Bessy Costrell: Charles Townsend Copeland (1860-1952) was a critic and a professor of English at Harvard University. Mary Augusta Ward (1851-1920) published *The Story of Bessie Costrell* in 1895. Whitman has altered the spelling of the title. Key to Correspondents.

Mrs. Ward ... Sir George Trevelyan: Mary Augusta Ward (1851-1920) published *Sir George Tressady* in 1896; it first appeared as a serial in *Atlantic Monthly*, beginning in 1895. Whitman seems to have mistaken the title; this was corrected in *Letters of Sarah Wyman Whitman*, as shown below. Key to Correspondents.

The manuscript of this letter is held by the Houghton Library of Harvard University. Whitman, Sarah (Wyman) 1842-1904. 92 letters; [1884]-[1903] & [n.d.] Jewett, Sarah Orne, 1849-1909. Sarah Orne Jewett additional correspondence, 1868-1930. MS Am 1743.1 -107.

Transcription from *Letters of Sarah Wyman Whitman* (1907).

Part of this letter appears on pp. 85-7.

I fell to work and began thinking of the winter, a thought I have not hitherto allowed myself because that way madness lay! But now I grow bolder and venture to plan somewhat for things to be. And to think of the Window in a thousand different ways, a way of thinking through which I must pass before I decide upon one way. And I have now had definite talk with the powers at Trinity and there is no doubt that the Class will be allowed to put its memorial to Mr. Brooks there, in the triple window which we have in our own room. So that is for the immediate future, and I guess not much portrait painting this year, except that it is never safe to prophesy! But enough of Shop.

I have been this evening to dine at Shady Hill with that hot, pulsing and amazing creature R. Kipling; and he was exceedingly interesting, real and full of talk. He seemed in fact like a focus of creative energy, with that dark imaginative eye behind the glass. I had never seen the Banjo Song which he recited in a sort of still, molten way, and which I think the most humane and large word, albeit couched in the short syllables of a sort of refrain, he has ever written. It all made me feel very strangely as I came into town again under a gray sky . . . . I think Mrs. Ward has given a fresh turn on the wheel, so far as strength and texture in the fabric of her work goes. Sir *George Tressady* opens with a stout clutch on her material and firm and easy movement. It seems a very live world to me to-night, as you see, my friend; and I am dying for talk and those things which come with speech and companionship when one knows there is everything to be said. A hot silence has some gleams of delight in it, but one is left rather like a crater thereafter.

But my one word is made of many syllables and I must reduce it to two and say good-night.

Shall I not say also God bless you?

Sarah Orne Jewett to Sarah Wyman Whitman

Saturday afternoon
[23 *November 1895*]*

And your letter coming in just as you thought it would and making me a great pleasure dear. I thought of you last night so dearly and nearly, and knew you were out at Shady Hill where I hoped to be but Sally* had told me to look out for Mr. Kipling,* coming on the fifteenth when I was in town a while ago and I made my plans boldly round that hopeful day and therefore got left as one may say. As for R.K.* he is all that you say. I have known writers and writers but never one who was such

[*Page 2*]

a mountain torrent of power and invention: & creative as such a torrent is -- getting itself born out the clouds and rocks. You feel as if Homer* were born so of the elements -- There is no limit to what such a man may do in quantity, and as for [his *corrected*] quality that is born and not made

like Stevenson's for instance with all its Scottish flavor and French [sun=heather *so written*] & fleur de lis; heather honey if you ever ate that out of a honey pot of burnt clay to your tough bread in Edinburgh -- and rejoiced like me!! -- One has a kind of sacred feeling about a man like Kipling young and ^so^ [alive *corrected*] -- it is so easy for him to do great things and you have only to read some

[*Page 3*]

of the poorer [among *corrected*] his early Plain Tales* to see how he has grown already.

We are born pretty much as we are going to continue, ~~though~~ I dont know that Kipling seems any greater or more uncommon than he did when I happened to take a little brown Calcutta book off an Athenaeum shelf one day, and felt as if I had found him lost on the road and gave up the next day to talking about him and then in a week or two he was in every paper in the known world. --- Well, he is way up above everybody who is trying to write stories now, and he gives a cry now and then from the path where he walks ahead and all that, and I never had such a talk about stories as I did one

[*Page 4*]

day with him. He may play with his wolf brothers for fun, that young Mowgli* but his heart is a mans heart and full of all [he *?*] thought and loved when he was a child. Did you read the last story that ever was -- Quiquern in McClure's Magazine?* ----

But all this is a thing to say by night and we could have made the most of small hours last night as ever was, we who have things to say to each other: but never the night to say them. One gets a habit of missing people at every turn as if they had died, and means of communication had been somehow

[*Page 5*]

lost though they live and go their ways under the same sky. It gets to be that lovely thing {-- } a friendship of spirit -- but now and then I get rebellious and fly at Fate angrily and will have no more of such a world. Either one must get hold of hands sometime and walk a little way together, or turn away and say "That used to be and is, and I love to think about it but now I must wait until I come to another and a better world before I can either have what I want of going on together, or grace enough to be reconciled to not having it.*

As for me it grows easier

[*Page 6*]

to do without things -- One gets more sympathy for ones friends and less for oneself as she grows older -- and falls back on Carlyle's cry that the only happiness one ought to ask for is happiness [enough *corrected*] to get her work done.

And this about work [has *corrected*] never been so near my heart as now = if it were last night -- and we had been talking together I couldn't have helped saying things.

= You do not say anything yet about dear [A.Fs *so written*] book of verse* and I think you dont care about it -- I cannot help confessing how much I care. There are

[*Page 7*]

some poems like Still in thy love I trust that touch me inexpressibly with their beauty and appealingness{.} I believe that this is true poetry this of hers -- but not to be easily read in any but the right mood and not quickly felt by most people -- Her use of conventional phrases and her sometimes difficult ways of saying simple things -- all this is hindering to a reader but -- but -- there is the poetic feeling -- the fresh apprehension { -- } the feeling in the line that is truly the soul of any body of verse -- A man like Stedman* excellent critic as he is may write well a letter as he did and praise her as he did and always has, most delightfully and choose unerringly the best thing

[*Page 8*]

and Mr. Aldrich who knows good verse may say his say of praise and affection and call it a lovely book -- but I find something deeper still. Thats very natural you may say; but I do find something of the ^very^ heat* just as I have seen the best ~~ones~~ ^[men *corrected*] and women^* of our time seem to recognize at once a subtle kinship with her, so these verses are of the kind that makes great verse. It is not like Emily Dickinson* or like the New School, but ^it is^ the Asphodel, type and spring flowers instead of the ribbon beds and the nasturtium colours. Sometimes she makes anything do for a rhyme instead of leaving it flying in the air as Emily Dickinson would, both [of *corrected*] them have this in common -- of fine boldness that

[*Page 9*]*

cant stop for such trifles! ----

And I wish that she had ^not^ printed so many

but that mustn't make a fellow blind to uncommon qualities in the best. The very fullness of heart & life and feeling that speaks in them is such a warmth after these pinched and careful bookeys that come like leaves thick into ones hand and all seem to ~~say~~ ^whisper^ the same thing.

But this is too long to talk about and bookeys of a common year and impulse always do say the same thing.

Now all winter we may never speak out -- but there is a comfort in

[*Page 10*]

knowing what the other fellow thinks. And so I say God bless you dear and I stop this long letter. Except that you must remember to have patience with me who love you very much; patience with impatience, with a [dullness *corrected*] that grows instead of brightening -- with most of all a heart that finds its doors fast shut and cannot get them open some days, try as it may and beat as it may behind them, -- and patience when ---------

Well, when a letter gets too long and tries to say things

[*Page 11*]

that cant be said and gets still longer . . . If we could master our conditions ^ I mean the difficulty of getting our work done!^ I wonder if we should be any happier or if our work would really go on any better, any better at all! No dear, sometimes I get a gleam of knowledge that our [*deletion*] only chance for happiness is [*deletion*] in our conditions and that when they are taken away, ^the^ happiness must go too that belongs to them. But one sees what one might do and what those one loves best might do and falls to fretting and

[*Page 12*]

worrying -- In our conditions we get all the help we can ever have { -- } I wonder if it is not truly so = they are like the structure of a lamp and our lives are the oil that burns -- yes, hindered sometimes but ^to see^ what light they can give in all their business -- and when we really are talking sometime I must tell you about that poem of A.F.'s that she calls The Offering.

Good night dear and now you will tear this long chapter into nice little pieces and forget about it. And someday I shall see you and we must say things then about Dr. James's paper.* The denial of the idol is the great phrase{.}

[*Up the left margin and across the top margin of page 12*]

I mind what you say about the Window and the Fair.*

Yours with true love

S.O.J.

[*Up the left margin and across the top margin of page 1*]

Woodrow Wilson is at Princeton { -- } a young man & very interesting{.} I dined with him once in Baltimore. I go to read his Bagehot paper!

Notes

1895: This extraordinary letter responds to Whitman's of 22/23 November 1895.

At the top of the first page are several notes, some clearly not in Jewett's hand. Top right is penciled the date 1896.However, 1895 clearly is the correct year.

Also noted top right is that this letter is addressed to Whitman.

Finally at the top center are marks I cannot interpret, looking like "NO ."

Bottom left of this page, penciled probably in another hand is a circled number 8.

The letter is extraordinary for several reasons, not merely because it is one of the longest Jewett is known to have written. Especially notable are her extravagant praise of Rudyard Kipling and her passionate defense of Annie Fields's newly published poetry collection, *The Singing Shepherd*. Both of these features are discussed below.

Also notable is that Jewett wrote this letter at the height of her literary power, when the first installment of her masterpiece, *The Country of the Pointed Firs*, was soon to appear in *Atlantic Monthly*, January 1896. She had been hard at work on the installments, for though the second appeared in March 1896, she was out of the country in January and February on a grueling Caribbean cruise, with several of her friends, including Thomas Bailey Aldrich and Annie Fields.

Shady Hill ... Sally: Sara Norton resided with her family at Shady Hill in Cambridge, MA. Key to Correspondents.

Kipling: Rudyard Kipling. Key to Correspondents.

Jewett's awe at Kipling's ability clearly was stimulated by her personal contacts with him as well as her reading, but it also is notable that just a few weeks before this letter, on 16 October 1895, he wrote her a letter praising her new book *The Life of Nancy*, but also complaining that she had

spoiled one story, "A War Debt," by altering the ending between its publication in *Harper's Magazine* and when she collected it in *The Life of Nancy*.

R.K.: Jewett appears to have corrected a K into the R.

Homer: The Greek poet Homer (c. 7th century B.C.)

Stevenson's: Scottish author, Robert Louis Stevenson (1850-1894).

*Plain Tale*s: Kipling's *Plain Tales from the Hills* (1888).

Mowgli: A character in Kipling's two books: *The Jungle Book* (1894) and *The Second Jungle Book* (1895).

Quiquern in McClure's: Kipling's story appeared in *McClure's* in November 1895.

"That: Jewett seems clearly to have opened the quotation here, though she does not close it.

Carlyle's cry: Thomas Carlyle (1795-1881) expresses this general idea in several of his works, including 'Characteristics' (1831) and *Sartor Resartus* (1833). The passage to which Jewett refers is most likely *Past and Present* (1843), p. 110.

book of verse: Annie Adams Fields, *The Singing Shepherd* (1895). Key to Correspondents.

Both poems Jewett mentions are from that volume, and both deal with enduring separation.

Jewett's defense of Fields's book is unprecedented in her correspondence. It is somewhat odd that she thinks Whitman may not like the book, as she seems to have no evidence of this except for Whitman's silence. Yet she undertakes a passionate defense. This merits more discussion than I can undertake in these notes, but I will lay out some of what seems relevant to this passage.

Jewett mentions only the laudatory responses by letter of Stedman and Aldrich, which she seems to have found inadequate. Unfortunately, Stedman and Aldrich's letters have not yet been found.

Perhaps Jewett also was upset by the silence of print reviewers. Probably she had seen no published reviews of *The Singing Shepherd*, though at least two appeared soon after in *The Congregationalist* and *The Literary World*. While it's not very likely Jewett saw them before this letter, they probably illustrate in part what she says here.

> Mrs. James T. Fields is one of the poets who, although always in sympathy with what is cheerful, nevertheless by preference sings in strains prompted by her grave moods. A poet of the meditative school, her verses have serious meanings and repay pondering.... [H]er most recent collection illustrates both her easy rule over metrical forms and her occasional independence of them, and it especially appeals to the deeper nature of the reader. *Congregationalist* (28 November 1895, p. 847).
>
> Mrs. James T. Fields's volume ... has much that is beautiful in it, but its cheerful title is most inappropriate; it would have been far more aptly named ""The Valley of the Shadow of Death." Many of her poems are in memory of those who fell in the Civil War. Mrs. Fields has a delicate melody which is unfailing, and if her choice of words is not brilliantly successful, it is never either jarring or commonplace. One of her most charming poems, "Winter Lilacs," is too long to quote, but an excellent example of her range and style is shown in "A Dream in May:" . ... "The Garden of Fame" is also a poem worth reading and remembering. On the whole Mrs. Fields's poems are decidedly above the average, and the volume will be an acquisition to those lovers of poetry who can value the minor as well as the major poets. *The Literary World* (27 December 1895, p. 476)

It may be guessed that Aldrich and Stedman also saw Fields as a "minor" poet and, perhaps, betrayed this in their letters, which were likely to be expressions of friendship as much as of high praise for her art. Jewett's defense seems to concede this point, and what she has read into Whitman's silence may be Jewett's own considered evaluation. That is, Jewett may respond to her sense of the book's weaknesses by making a passionate argument that Fields's very best poems are *not* minor, even though much of her work may be. The weaknesses she concedes are several and telling:

- successful reading requires the "right mood" and sensitivities most readers lack,
- she can be too conventional and too obscure,
- she is old fashioned, unlike Emily Dickinson and the New School,
- she included too ``rs that in this insertion, Jewett started out to write just "women" and changed the first "w" to an "m." Also, this insertion appears to be in pencil, suggesting that it was added later.

Emily Dickinson: American poet, Emily Dickinson

(1830-1886). The first volume of Dickinson's poems was published in 1890. Three collections appeared between 1890 and 1896. Wikipedia.

Page 10: Penciled in the bottom left corner of this page is the circled number 8.

Dr. James's paper: Jewett refers to an essay by William James. Key to Correspondents.

"The denial of the idol" appears in his essay, "Is Life Worth Living? An Address to the Harvard Young Men's Christian Association." It appeared in the *International Journal of Ethics,* (October, 1895). The essay as a whole is directly relevant to this letter, the passage she quotes especially so:

> Now, to make an idol of the spirit of nature, and worship it, also leads to sophistication; and in souls that are religious and would also be scientific the sophistication breeds a philosophical melancholy, from which the first natural step of escape is the denial of the idol; and with the downfall of the idol, whatever lack of positive joyousness may remain, there comes also the downfall of the whimpering and cowering mood. (Section 3)

Window and the Fair: Jewett probably refers to the Brimmer window, destined for the transept of Memorial Hall at Harvard University, for which Whitman received the commission in 1895.

Whitman speaks of the fair in her 22-3 November letter. It is likely she refers to a church charity fair at Trinity Church, Boston.

Wilson: American academic and politician, Woodrow Wilson (1856-1924) was United States President (1913-1921). See Whitman to Jewett of 22-3 November 1895.

The manuscript of this letter is held by the Houghton Library of Harvard University, Cambridge, MA. bMS Am 1743 Box 6, Item 277.

Annie Adams Fields to Thomas Bailey Aldrich

148 Charles St. Boston
Tuesday Eve[g]
[*November 1895*]*

My dear friend;

Sarah has gone today, but we had a brief period when we could sit, each, with a dear little book in separate corners and read out, at times, our favorites. "Andromeda" "Imp of Dreams" "I vex me not";* Ah me! Why should I write a catalogue? They are all melodious and beautiful strings -- various, though of the same instrument.

By the way, Mr. Stedman* sent me a long note yesterday.

[*Page 2*]

I am glad you could send him such a sustaining letter about his anthology: it must have warmed the cockles of his heart.

Thank you from us both for the enchanting volumes -- (no, "book=a=tees")

Affectionately yours
and Lilian's*
Annie Fields.

Notes

1895: This date in brackets appears in another hand. As indicated in the notes below, this almost certainly is correct.

vex me not: Aldrich's poems appear in two books.

"Andromeda" and "A Serenade" that opens, "Imp of Dreams," are in *Unguarded Gates* (1895).

His sonnet, "I vex me not with brooding on the years" appears in *The Sister's Tragedy* (1891).

As Fields reports she and Sarah Orne Jewett have been reading two "little books," it seems likely that they were looking at these titles rather than at later larger collections, like *Later Lyric* (1896).

Stedman: Edmund Clarence Stedman, editor of the *Victorian Anthology* (1895). Key to Correspondents.

The manuscript of this letter is held by the Houghton Library of Harvard University: MS Am 1429, Box 6, Items 1446-1538.

Sarah Orne Jewett to Annie Adams Fields
Fragment

[*1895*]*

(you may know about her going on -- dear Sally,* how I should love to see her! but I am afraid she is too busy to think of a little visit.))

= I have now taken to reading Mr. Pepys* and find him very charming but so busy in the first volume with the King's return* that I shall be glad to get to where there are more reports of his new clothes and cheerful companions. I wavered between him & Boswell's Johnson* and I am by no means sure that [M[r] *corrected*] Pepys has finally won the day. But they was great folks to read about, and one as good

[*Page 2*]

as the other in being terrible interesting.

- (I am just slipping these one cent stamps into the envelope for you to put [*deleted word*] on the pamphlets &c which have to be remailed. They wont ~~send~~ ^remail^ "second class matter" without a second-postage as they will letters and I get cards from the postmaster that there is something waiting -- you tell Cassie* about it. Sometimes they kindly stamp it 1 cent due & send it along: I should think they might all the time.

Good night dear
with ever so much love from
Pinny

Notes

1895: This date is a guess, based upon "Cassie" first being named as probably a cook for Annie Fields in a letter of 1895.

Parenthesis marks in this manuscript were penciled by Fields.

Sally: Probably this is Sara Norton. Key to Correspondents.

Mr. Pepys: Samuel Pepys (1633-1703) was a British civil servant and Member of Parliament, best remembered for his diary of 1660-1690, covering quite eventful years in England.

King's return: Charles II became King of England after eleven years during which England was without a king after the execution of his father, Charles I in 1649.

Boswell's Johnson: James Boswell (1740-1795) is most famous as the Scottish biographer of British author, Samuel Johnson (1709-1784).

Cassie: Presumably a Fields employee, possibly a cook, as suggested in a letter to Carrie Jewett Eastman of 8 September 1895. No further identification has been found.

The manuscript of this letter is held by the Houghton Library of Harvard University. Jewett, Sarah Orne, 1849-1909. Annie Fields (Adams) 1834-1915, recipient. 194 letters; 1877-1909 & [n.d.] Sarah Orne Jewett correspondence, 1861-1930. MS Am 1743 (255).

Sarah Orne Jewett to Frederick Mercer Hopkins

[*Begin letterhead*]

South Berwick, Maine [*End letterhead*]

27 Novr [*1895*]

My dear Sir

It seems to me that anyone who knew Mrs. Thaxter* or who reads the book of her Letters* could not fail to see that the Editors told what there was to tell in regard to her character and the way she grew & came to be herself. The idea of the Editors having 'suppressed' any material is absurd, except so far as they

[*Page 2*]

exercised their taste and discretion in not including personalities that involved the concerns of others. Mrs. Thaxter was never what one would call a student in the common acceptance of the word and her literary work was done with singular swiftness and definiteness of thought and touch. She was always busy, and full of eager interest in what went on about her; her knowledge of the books she liked best

[*Page 3*]

was very clear and quite at her command. I think that she found any long piece of writing very difficult -- The ^Among^ Isles of the Shoals volume* which was done at first for The Atlantic perhaps less so than any -- but she did little of prose writing which was so remarkably beautiful. I believe that Among the Isles of the Shoals will live as Whites Selbourne* has lived and always find its lovers{.} It seems to have

[*Page 4*]

many of the same qualities.

The book of Children's prose and verse which I have just edited* has the same delightful qualities --

In haste

Yours very truly
S. O. Jewett.

To
F. M. Hopkins Esqr

You will have admired Mrs. Fields's exquisite preface to the letters I am sure. It is most just and so beautifully written, with both frankness & reticence!

Notes

1895: Rosamond Thaxter places this in 1895 or 1896, but 1895 is the more likely date, as both Thaxter's letters and the edition of Thaxter's work for children were published that year..

Thaxter ... Letters: *Letters of Celia Thaxter*, edited by Annie Fields and Rose Lamb, appeared in 1895.

Among the Isles of the Shoals: Thaxter's book appeared in 1878.

White's Selborne: Gilbert White (1720-1793), though a fellow at Oriel College, Oxford, lived most of his life at Selbourne, in England, as a curate, where he could follow his avocations of naturalist and writer. His correspondence with Daines Barrington grew into the *Natural History and Antiquities of Selbourne* (1788).

prose and verse: Jewett's edition of Thaxter's *Stories and Poems for Children* appeared in 1895.

The manuscript of this letter is held by the Small Library, University of Virginia, Special Collections MSS 6218, Sarah Orne Jewett Papers. A typescript transcription is held by the Portsmouth Athenaeum MS129, Rosamond Thaxter's Papers for *Sandpiper*, Folder 12: Correspondence: Celia Thaxter to Sarah Orne Jewett, 1888-1893.

Sarah Wyman Whitman to Sarah Orne Jewett

[*December 1895-1897*]*

Dear, in loves stupid way a note I began to you at Berwick did not get itself finished [*two unrecognized words*], & this goes just to say that that [check *?*] is hereby acknowledged but not accepted -- (a matter which must be adjusted with the living voice --) & that the Fair meantime [looks *?*] for you to arrive

[*Page 2*]

just as early on Thursday as your dear works & ways will allow. It opens at 11 a.m. & Coolidge* is an Awful Engine at these [*unrecognized word*] & makes the unwary buy pincushions in a way I -- having the [worse *?*] of a commercial capacity -- could never dream.

But I could give you a sandwich there: & love you pretty well. Tell the dear Lady* that the bough shall be my Xmas piece: & I bless her for it.

Thine

Sw

Notes

December 1895-1897: This date range is speculative. Whitman was involved in organizing a fund-raising fair at Trinity Church (Episcopal) in Boston each year before Christmas for much of her adult life. There are other letters from this period in which Whitman writes to Jewett about this fair.

Coolidge: Probably Sarah Chauncey Woolsey, who wrote under the name Susan Coolidge. Key to Correspondents.

Lady: Annie Adams Fields.

The manuscript of this letter is held by the Houghton Library of Harvard University. Whitman, Sarah (Wyman) 1842-1904. 92 letters; [1884]-[1903] & [n.d.] Jewett, Sarah Orne, 1849-1909. Sarah Orne Jewett additional correspondence, 1868-1930. MS Am 1743.1 -107.

Sarah Orne Jewett to Mr. J. S. Lee

[*Begin letterhead*]
South Berwick, Maine
[*End letterhead; date to the right of letterhead*]
4 Dec[r]
1895

Dear Sir

I suppose that you mean by 'an autograph fiend' a person who [troubles *corrected*] a busy person unnecessarily -- for his own profit. I must say that, since there are dealers in autographs in all our large cities who can supply specimens of writing at small cost, I believe

[*Page 2*]

that it is much more considerate, not to say dignified, for collectors to deal with them directly.

Letters are like questions which one delights ^to answer^ if they show real interest and hates if they are simply urged by curiosity; I am afraid

[*Page 3*]

that I must confess to a belief that most requests for autographs come under the latter ignoble heading. Certainly the time taken up in asking for them and in replying on the author's part does not seem very well spent ^on either side^ -- and you would do well in your paper to remind young people to think seriously what it means to gather a

[*Page 4*]

collection of autographs from strangers: whether they should think it quite courteous to ask for time ^& trouble^, or their equivalent, on any other grounds.*

In haste yours very truly
S. O. Jewett

For
Mr. J. S. Lee

Notes

your paper ... other grounds: Apparently, Mr. Lee indicated to Jewett that he was preparing a paper to be published in an outlet for young people. Whether such a piece was published is uncertain. However, nine years later, revised portions of this letter appeared in "Confessions of an Autographomaniac," in *The Independent* (New York) 55 (26 May 1904) pp. 1195-8. The by-line for this piece is "The Maniac," but he suggests in the article that his first name is Jonathan. This is not the sort of piece Jewett recommended that he write, for the Maniac glories in his success at provoking interesting responses from his correspondents. He disguises Jewett's gender and makes other changes to the text we have in the manuscript:

> One of our foremost novelists generously gave me his opinion of autograph collectors. I was delighted to receive the letter, for I did not expect more than a signature:
>
> > Dear Sir: You are one of those who trouble a busy person unnecessarily. I must say that since there are dealers in autographs in all large cities who can supply specimens of writing at small cost, I believe it is much more considerate, not to say dignified, for collectors to deal with them directly, Letters are like questions, which one delights to answer if they show real interest, and hates if they are simply urged by curiosity. I am afraid that I must confess to a belief that your request for an autograph comes under the latter ignoble heading. Certainly the time taken up in asking for it and in replying on my part does not seem very well spent on either side; and I would remind you and others to think seriously what it means to gather a collection of autographs. Go and sin no more. (1196)

Notes from two other readers are filed with the ms. at MWWC.

The unknown first transcriber added these typed notes.

"Most Requests for Autographs

Come Under the...Ignoble Heading"

Jewett, Sarah Orne. *Autograph Letter Signed*. South Berwick, Maine, 4 Dec. 1895.

Autograph letter signed to Mr. Joseph Lee, 6 x 3-7/8", four pages (approx. 185 words), on white stationery engraved "South Berwick, Maine," folded quarto with traces of glue at left margin, not affecting text, very good.

A direct, often caustic letter on the subject of autographs and autograph seekers. Jewett launches her letter with "Dear Sir, I suppose that you mean by 'an autograph friend'* a person who troubles a busy person unnecessarily -- for his own profit." She suggests it is both "more considerate, not to say dignified" for collectors to deal with autograph dealers. "Letters are like questions which one delights to answer if they show real interest and hates if they are simply urged by curiosity..." Jewett's impatience continues unabated as she ends the letter by asking rhetorically "whether [young autograph collectors] should think it quite courteous to ask for time & trouble, or their equivalent, on any other grounds." She signs "in haste" and in fact the interjections at various points suggest Jewett did write the letter rapidly and with an unusual degree of emotion.

And Jewett was very busy in December of 1895. She had just seen through press THE LIFE OF NANCY, a collection of poems and stories for children by her friend Celia Thaxter, a short story for the Bachellor Syndicate and had before her in 1896 a book of Thaxter's poetry and her own masterpiece, THE COUNTRY OF THE POINTED FIRS. She had been a published author for nearly thirty years; and while autograph seekers for the very popular Victorian pass-time of autograph albums with their specimen signatures and sentiments may have been flattering once, now they were a distracting intrusion. Perhaps a less pressured Jewett would have softened the warmth of her response. As it is, this is a remarkable letter with the writer allowing herself a rare display of impatience, even anger, yet with a characteristic grace of phrase and language.

This note was appended by hand in July 2000.

*looks like “fiend” rather than “friend” to me –

(added by Kent Bicknell, 7/2000).

Editor's note: I agree with Bicknell that in her opening sentence Jewett wrote "autograph fiend" rather than "autograph friend," which was the rendering in the earlier transcription.

The manuscript of this letter is held by the University of New England Maine Women Writers Collection, Sarah Orne Jewett Correspondence Box 2 Folder 134. New transcription and notes.

Helen Williams Gilman to Mary Rice Jewett

Portland. Dec. 4.
[*1895 or before*]*

Dear Mary:

My Thanksgiving was an exceptionally happy one, for John and Lilly* had got safely back from their Cal. trip and dear Aunt Mary L. was well and bright as a button and dear Margie was good enough to join us in our family gathering here in the evnig., and though there were sad memories for all

[*Page 2*]

of us yet the "wind was tempered"* and peace and joy came to each heart. After Thanksgiving Mary L. had a slight cold which dear Mollie* explained as indigestion, but care and simple remedies had their effect and Friday noon the two dear ones left for home. That they were to find little Joe ill on their return troubled me a little, but as no word has come today from Ex. it makes me hopeful that he is no longer in a "critical condition' as the telegram of Friday said.

[*Page 3*]

Hoping that nothing serious is to come of the dear boy's illness I write to ask how it is with you and Sarah about coming to [make me for *so it appears*] a little visit? Can you come this week? I had hoped to give you the choice of two weeks, but this mor'g a letter from Augusta makes it probable that sister Anne will be coming next week, and if you can come any day after you receive this it will delight me to see you. I hope this is far enough away from Xmas not to trouble you, and I want you to do only what is most agreeable

[*Page 4*]

and convenient, and if dear Carrie and Theo. can be included I [shall *?*] be the happiest of the happy. I long to see you all, and I have been more sorry than I can express not to send you an earlier summons, but each day has been full and I have had to wait till now. Your last good letter I thank you for, and it will be good to have ^you^ and Sarah tell me what letters do not. I was glad to hear that dear Carrie had been to Exeter, and from this I shall hope to see her here. With unbounded love to you all, from ever your affectionate Aunt Helen.

Notes

!896: Carrie Eastman died before Thanksgiving in 1897, so this letter must have been composed in 1896 or earlier. That Sarah Orne Jewett also is expected to visit places it before 1896, when she was in Boston, preparing for a Caribbean cruise, at that Christmas.

I have arbitrarily placed it in 1895.

John and Lilly: John may be Gilman's grandson, John Taylor Gilman Nichols Jr. (1877–1958) or her step-son, John Melvin Gilman (1824-1906), though he lived with his wife, Anna (1831- October 1895), in St. Paul, MN. Lilly has not yet been identified.

Aunt Mary: Mary Olivia Gilman Long, sister-in-law of Gilman. Key to Correspondents.

Margie has not yet been identified.

tempered: This phrase appears fairly often in literature. Jewett correspondent Sarah Chauncey Woolsey (Susan Coolidge) published a poem, "Charlotte Brontë," collected in *A Few More Verses* (1907), that includes this phrase.

Mollie ... little Joe: These persons have not yet been identified.

sister Anne: This person has not yet been identified.

Carrie and Theo: Carrie Jewett Eastman, and her son, Theodore.

The manuscript of this letter is held by the Houghton Library of Harvard University, Cambridge, MA. bMS Am 1743 Box 8, Item 354, IV. Letters to Mary Rice Jewett.

Sarah Orne Jewett to Alfred Ernest Keet
Fragment

[*December 1895*]*

... variety and an air of ease & liberty in the ^use of^ material -- ~~But~~ I should not be giving a* successful editor this long lecture -- but I must say that Madame Blanc after her ^accustomed^ thirty or forty pages of the Revue des Deux Mondes probably thought that she was condensing in a remarkable way.

I wished to tell you in case the proof is not

[*Page 2*]

ready before the third of January that I shall not be able to read it as I am going to the West Indies &c. on a long yachting voyage.* So that I shall be glad to see the copy again in whatever form it comes and I shall do all I can to leave it in good shape{.}

With very kind regards, believe me
Yours truly
S. O. Jewett

I beg that you will pardon my untidy letter which I have written with a stiff hand and most awkwardly.

[*Page 3*]

It would be a great help to me if you would put a pencil line by some of the paragraphs whose use you question in the article --

Notes

date: This letter seems clearly to follow up on Jewett to Keet of 18 November 1895, and it helps to establish that both letters were composed in 1895, shortly before Jewett's 1896 Caribbean tour, which began in January.

giving a: Jewett has deleted something here. Richard Cary decided that she intended "a."

way: Jewett refers Marie Thérèse Blanc's "Family Life in America," which appeared in *Forum*, XXI (March 1896), 1-20.

Richard Cary notes:

> In 1896 papers by Madame Blanc also appeared in the July *Scribner's* and the October *Century,* so it would seem that Miss Jewett expended considerable effort marketing her friend's literary product. This was not an unusual activity for Miss Jewett who was constantly recommending her friends' writings to editors. In addition, she gave her time unstintedly to encourage and assist unfledged writers, although often it meant interrupting her own literary labors (see Letters 46, 56, 75, 80, 103, 108, 141). As for herself, she was proud to say, "I had no literary friends 'at court.' "

The manuscript of this letter is held by Colby College Special Collections, Waterville, ME: JEWE.1. Richard Cary included his transcription in *Sarah Orne Jewett Letters.* New transcription and notes.

Sarah Orne Jewett to Addison Irving Bacheller

5 December 1895

[*Begin letterhead*]
South Berwick, Maine
[End letterhead]

Dear Mr. Bacheller

It has been your custom to send the cheque for my stories at once so that, remembering suddenly today that there has been none yet for the Thanksgiving story* I venture to remind you

[*Page 2*]

thinking there has been some mistake. But if, at the end of the year, it has not been convenient to send out cheques I beg that you will wait your own pleasure as to the time.

[*Page 3*]

I have been much delighted by the expressions of approval which have reached me about that story. People seem to have liked it very much indeed. I hope that it brought you also some pleasure [*deleted or unrecognized word written over another*] on the business side -- it seems to me more and more difficult to get just the right thing

[*Page 4*]

for newspapers and hurried reading, with all the disadvantages of crowded print &c. which certainly lend a dullness! It is no place to print anything but the best one can do -- if only because one stands before ones largest audience.

With very kind regards believe me

Yours sincerely
S. O. Jewett

Notes

Thanksgiving story: Jewett's syndicated Thanksgiving story in 1895 was "The Night Before Thanksgiving," which is known to have appeared in the *Boston Evening Transcript* on Saturday, November 16, 1895, and probably was printed in other newspapers as yet unidentified.

The manuscript of this letter is held by the Small Library, University of Virginia, Special Collections MSS 6218, Sarah Orne Jewett Papers.

Sarah Orne Jewett to Louise Imogen Guiney

5 December 1895
[*Begin letterhead*]
South Berwick, Maine
[*End letterhead*]

My dear Louise

Could you meet me on the afternoon of Thursday next week at the Public Library of Boston at any time between two o'clock and five o'clock to go over it a little -- but especially to see Mr.

[*Page 2*]

Putnam the Librarian who wishes very much to know you, and who has some especial reasons for this which it might be well to consider.

If you will send me a line, here, I can meet you at the staircase. It will be a pleasure to look

[*Page 3*]

forward to and I am ever yours most affectionately

S. O. Jewett

Notes

A transcription by William L. Lucey, S. J. appeared in "'We New Englanders': Letters of Sarah Orne Jewett to Louise Imogen Guiney." *Records of the American Catholic Historical Society of Philadelphia* 70 (1959): 58-64.

The manuscript of this letter is held by the Dinand Library of Holy Cross College in the collection of materials of Louise Imogen Guiney, Box: SC007-GUIN-004, Folder: 40. New transcription and notes.

Sarah Wyman Whitman to Sarah Orne Jewett

[*5 December 1895*]

Birthday, 1895.

Your note and the lovely book came almost together and made me feel a great warmth about the heart. One never recovers from the intensity of association with anniversaries and festivals, but one would gladly evade them; they open such doors into the chambers which everyday life and everyday work enable one to avoid.

And the touch of a friend's hand is full of consolation.

Notes

Birthday: Whitman's birthday was December 5.

This transcription appears in *Letters*, Sarah Wyman Whitman. Cambridge, MA: Riverside Press, 1907, "Letters to Sarah Orne Jewett: 1882-1903," pp. 61-109.

Sarah Orne Jewett to Thomas Bailey Aldrich

7 December 1895
[*Begin letterhead*]
South Berwick.
Maine.
[*End letterhead*]

My dear Friend

I wish to say again all the thanks I keep giving you about this little book -- it is such a beautiful collection of your most lovely poems. There is something that touches the deepest place in my mind about the touch of nature* and Like Crusoe walking on the Lonely Island and the Till poem -- I can never

[*Page 2*]

tell you how they touch me and make that sob in my heart that is the spirit and soul of a kind of happy grief and never takes on the body of common crying over what one reads and loves.

But not to try to explain [my *corrected*] feelings, I so long to say ~~again~~ as I never can say when I see you in what reverence and admiration I hold your great gift and genius of verse -- it shines like a

[*Page 3*]

star in this world of writing where people go ^running^ about with poor candles, and lamps with pretty shades, and all that -- and the best of everyday verse is made or is born in a hurry. But there are always stars to steer by when one gets out from shore and the lamps and candles twinkle out in the mist and are gone. I read your poems a great deal and I never take them up without new admiration and a joy at thinking that there will

[*Page 4*]

be more to come, and that here is this most beautiful possession new and shining in my hand --

I haven't half said things -- but when I began I thought I should. I hear it is the English fashion not to acknowledge books that an author sends! but it isn't a fashion that I like -- so here are second thanks poor though they may be! = I think of such talks with you by and by and of Larks afloat and ashore.

With love to you & Lilian*

Ever yours
'Sadie'

Notes

touch of nature: Jewett may have intended to underline all three words.

Jewett refers to poems appearing in Aldrich's *Later Lyrics* (c. 1896): "A Touch of Nature" and "Like Crusoe, Walking by the Lonely Strand." There is no poem entitled "Till"; this transcription is uncertain, but there are few alternatives. Perhaps Jewett refers to "I'll not Confer with Sorrow," which opens "I'll not confer with Sorrow / Till to-morrow."

Lilian: Lilian Woodman Aldrich. Key to Correspondents.

The manuscript of this letter is held by the Houghton Library, Harvard University, Cambridge, Mass. Thomas Bailey Aldrich Papers, 119 letters of Thomas Bailey and Lilian Woodman Aldrich, 1837-1926. MS Am 1429 (117).

Sara Hammond Palfrey to Sarah Orne Jewett

Cambridge, Dec. 7th, 1895.*

My dear Miss Jewett,

How can I thank you hard enough for the pleasure you have provided for my sister and me; made ^still more of^ a treasure too by your autograph? --*

Dr. Holmes* wrote me word, that he received letters from the ends of the earth, that were enough to make one blush when he read them all alone by himself. Should you mind

Miss Jewett.

[*Page 2*]

so very much, being obliged to blush all alone by yourself? If not, may I venture to say that of all the "short stories" of the present time, those of the author of "The Town Poor" seem to me the best? Others, -- some of them, -- are very clever; but to these there are heights and depths. Moreover there is to be found in them a tone of gentlewomanliness, refinement and good-breeding which

[*Page 3*]

I grieve to own, seems to me among the rarest charms in American fiction.

Among the few of my castles in the air that have not yet fallen in ruins is one of some time buying a tidy old farm-house on a rocky foreland over the sea, with an acre of the virgin soil of New England, -- huckleberries, barberries, wild roses, and all, surrounded with a loose-piled stone wall enamelled with lichens, -- and

[*Page 4*]

there to pass half of every year on kindly neighbourly terms with the good, old-fashioned, native people, such as I meet in your imagination.

May I, through you, thank sweet Mrs. Fields over again for her book? "Still in thy love, I trust" is my favourite in it, thus far; but, of all that she ever wrote, I admire her poem on Mr. Hunt* the most. That, I cut out of a paper and treasured.

Believe me, dear Miss Jewett, in much haste with high regard
gratefully yours.
Sara Hammond Palfrey

Notes

1895: Palfrey's date looks a good deal like 1898, but associated with this letter is an envelope addressed to Mrs. Fields for Miss Jewett at 148 Charles Street, Boston. This has been deleted, and the letter redirected to Jewett in South Berwick, ME. It was cancelled on the front in Boston on 7 December 1895 and on the back on 9 December 1895, and also in South Berwick, the date not readable.

Palfrey had at least two sisters who may have been living in 1895: Hannah Russell Palfrey and Mary Gorham Palfrey.

Autograph: Jewett's new book in 1895 was *The Life of Nancy*. However, later Palfrey mentions Jewett's "The Town Poor," which was collected in *Strangers and Wayfarers* (1890).

Holmes: Presumably, this is Oliver Wendell Holmes, Sr., but he died more than a year before the date of this letter.

Fields: Annie Adams Fields's collection of poems, *The Singing Shepherd*, appeared in 1895. In this collection is "Still in thy Love I Trust."

Mr. Hunt: Probably, she refers to American artist William Morris Hunt (1824-1879), a friend of Fields and of Celia Thaxter. Wikipedia. However, it is not yet known to which poem she refers.

The manuscript of this letter is held by the Miller Library, Special Collections, Colby College, Waterville, ME: JEWE.1.

Sarah Orne Jewett to The Society of Philistines

[*9 December 1895*]
[*Begin letterhead*]
South Berwick Maine
[*End letterhead*]

Miss Sarah Orne Jewett regrets that she is obliged to decline the very kind invitation of the Members of the Society of Philistines* to meet Mr. Stephen Crane* at dinner on Thursday

[*Page 2*]

December nineteenth{.}

Monday

December ninth [*1895*]

Notes

Society of Philistines: The Society of the Philistines published *The Philistine* magazine at East Aurora, NY around the turn of the 20th century.

Stephen Crane: Stephen Crane (1871-1900) is an American writer best remembered for his novel, *The Red Badge of Courage* (1895).

Stanley Wertheim, in *A Stephen Crane Encyclopedia* (Greenwood 1997), says that the dinner honoring Crane at the Genessee Hotel in Buffalo, NY on 19 December 1895 was a turning point in Crane's literary career (p. 164).

Presumably, Jewett chose not to travel to Buffalo at least in part because she was preparing to depart on a Caribbean winter cruise with Annie Fields and others.

The manuscript of this letter is held by the Columbia University (New York) Library in Special Collections, Jewett. Transcription from a microfilm copy.

Robert Collyer to Annie Adams Fields and Sarah Orne Jewett

New York Dec 9th 1895

Dear Friends

The Life of Nancy* came last week and this morning The Victorian Poets to greet the 73d year. I can only thank you with all my heart for the kind and good remembrance and say to you what I said to son Robin just now { -- } be sure that every book which holds such inscriptions from old and dear friends is held sacred by my households to be kept by them for ever and ever Amen.

I found a volume on the shelves the other day "Old Bradford." It holds a lot of curious matter and evidently belongs to the Lassie* so I will send it to the owner [more by token *?*] that there are bits of engraving galore of old places where she lived many years ago with the ancestry of Jowett.*

I also got [mousing *?*] after them and have got some notes I will forward when I get them into decent script.

And I want to know if the Lady of the Manor* by the sea ever had a volume from my hand Ilkley ancient and modern* I wrote the

[*Page 2*]

story and a gentleman of learning did the rest so if there is no sign of it at 148 I will have the volume sent you from England for a keepsake and some time when I [estray *so written*] round again will touch my share with a pencil for its all a [saturday pie *so written*].

The Saints came in force last evening to wish me many more years and loaded the tables with flowers. I did not preach on time and the memories but on Fruit and Tree and as the Scotch say "it was no that bad."

Indeed yours
Robert Collyer

Notes

Nancy ... Victorian Poets: Sarah Orne Jewett's *The Life of Nancy* (1895).

Edmund C. Stedman edited the *Victorian Anthology* (1895). Key to Correspondents.

y*ear*: Collyer's birthday was 8 December. As it was his 72nd, he is beginning his 73rd year.

He omits many periods in this letter. I have supplied them wherever they seem necessary.

Bradford ... Lassie: Possibly, Collyer refers to *Pen and Pencil Sketches of Old Bradford* (1890) by British antiquarian, William Scruton (1840-1924).

Richard Cary noted that Collyer sometimes referred to Jewett as "Lassie," and there are Collyer letters in which he addresses both Fields and Jewett as Lassie. In this case, Fields seems the more likely "lassie."

Jowett: This reference is puzzling in several ways and remains unresolved. A Jowett family associated with Bradford, West Yorkshire, UK, included early car-makers, William and Benjamin Jowett, both of whom were in their teens at the time of this letter. Far better known in 1895 was Benjamin Jowett (1817-1893), the Oxford, University theologian, but his connection with Bradford is unknown. Why he refers to this name

at all in this context is a puzzle. Perhaps he is connecting the names "Jowett" and "Jewett."

Manor: Fields's summer home was in Manchester by the Sea. Whether Collyer intends an allusion is not evident, but British children's author, Mary Martha Sherwood (1775-1851) published a conduct book, *The Lady of the Manor* (1823-1829).

modern: With British antiquarian, Joseph Horsfall Turner (1845-1915), Collyer co-authored *Ilkley: Ancient and Modern* (1885). Collyer wrote to Fields about it around the time it was published and almost certainly gave her a copy at about that time.

The manuscript of this letter is held by the Huntington Library, San Marino, CA, in the James T. Fields Papers and Addenda Box 10: mss Fl 1-5637.

Horace Howard Furness to Sarah Orne Jewett

[*11 December 1895*]
[*Begin letterhead*]
Wallingford P. O.
Delaware County
Pennsylvania
[*End letterhead*]

Dear Miss Jewett

I hasten to thank you for your most kind remembrance of me.

The 'Life of Nancy'* is charming. You remember that in the enumeration which Hamlet* gives of the evils which only the dread of death makes tolerable to man there are the 'pangs of disprized love" (or so I prefer to read it, rather than 'despised love')

With

[*Page 2*]

With these pains as a theme, I cannot imagine how the soul of goodness, which lies even in them, could be more exquisitely exemplified with its refining, elevating influences, than in Nancy, -- failing in avowed homage of one heart she gathers in the homage of us all. It is charming from the first word to the last.

If 'Fame's Little Day' were not treated [*deletion*] with such tenderness, 'twould be cynical -- but of this there isn't a

trace

[*Page 3*]

trace -- But the simplicity of these two good old people, with their [*unrecognized word*] yeas and honest [*unrecognized word*] noes, verges on the pathetic. Why, oh why, don't you tell us how they deported themselves on their return? Like Noah Claypole,* I love dearly {'}to go round follerin' people unbeknownst --' but, dear Miss Jewett, just at the exciting point don't slam the door in my face{!}

But I am gabbling like a tinker. I haven't read all the stories. I couldn't wait to read all before thanking you for the great pleasure you have already given me.

Believe

[*Page 4*]

Believe me, my dear Miss Jewett, with admiration and gratitude

Yours faithfully

Horace Howard Furnefs.

11 December 1895

[*A note, probably in Jewett's hand, appears below the date*]

Aunt Helen* will be interested in this {--} it is such a nice note from old Dr Furness's son --

Notes

'Life of Nancy': Jewett's story collection *The Life of Nancy* appeared in 1895. The first two stories in the book were "The Life of Nancy" and "Fame's Little Day." The former first appeared in *Atlantic Monthly*, the latter in *Harper's*, both in 1895.

Hamlet: *Hamlet* is a tragedy by British playwright William Shakespeare (1564-1616). Furness refers to Hamlet's soliloquy in Act 3, Scene 1.

Noah Claypole: One of the villains in *Oliver Twist* (1837-39) by British novelist, Charles Dickens (1812-1870). Wikipedia.

Aunt Helen: Helen Williams Gilman. Key to Correspondents.

Furness's father was William Henry Furness (1802-1896), a friend of Ralph Waldo Emerson, and an American transcendentalist, theologian, clergyman and reformer. Wikipedia.

The manuscript of this letter is held by the Miller Library, Special Collections, Colby College, Waterville, ME: JEWE.1.

Elizabeth Cabot Cary Agassiz to Annie Adams Fields

Dec 12th [*1895*]*

[*Begin letterhead*]
Quincy Street,
Cambridge.
[*End letterhead*]

Dear friend

After your visit the other day and when other guests had left me, I sat alone reading the ^book^ you had brought. [*deletion*] I was deeply touched by many of the poems, -- especially some that seemed to speak to me ^personally^ out of the past, -- Cedar Mountain and others of

[*Page 2*]

the war poems. I had no idea that you had written so much in those years, the memory of which seems to make life nobler and purer.

I wonder if all that strength & readiness of self-sacrifice lies still about us, -- prompt to rise again at need?

I was not aware of all the heroism of our young men until

[*Page 3*]

the call came.

Thank you with all my heart for the volume.

I have read it almost all now and it has carried me not only back into the past, but out into the open -- into fields and waysides and by the sea-shores with all their lovely sights & sounds -- Good-bye

[*Page 4*]

with best remembrance

from your affectionate

Elizabeth C. Agassiz

Notes

1895: Presumably Fields gave Agassiz a copy of her 1895 collection of poems, *The Singing Shepherd*, in the year of its publication. "Cedar Mountain" (1862) appears in that book. The poem presumably recalls to Agassiz the 1862 death of her brother, Captain Richard Cary, a Union soldier in the American Civil War.

The manuscript of this letter is held by the Huntington Library, San Marino, CA, James Thomas Fields papers and addenda mssFI 1-5637, Box 1.

Louise Imogen Guiney to Sarah Orne Jewett

[*13 December 1895*]*

Dear Miss Jewett:

A note about the word we are in love with: "sylvan", as you wished. The only modern user of it, I think, is Dr. Parsons;* and in what I thought might be a translation of Dante's glorious little passage in the Purgatorio:

> Cui sarai tu poco tempo silvano;
> E sarai meca, sanza fine, cive
> Di quella Roma onde Cristo e Romano.

which is organ-music above Milton's.* But I find it not to be so. The word, as ~~he~~ ^Dr. Parsons^ employs it, was certainly suggested by that passage, but

[*Page 2*]

instantly runs away from it. In some lines ^on his wife's death,^ (placid and sweet, but not equal to him at his best) Dr. Parsons has this:

> "A little time a sylvan shall then dwell
> In silent chambers of the woodland fell,
> But no long while. Already"
>
> &c. &c.

Do you remember Sidney's*

> "Like to the silly sylvan,
> Burnt with the light he best loved,
> When with a fire he first met?"

of whom he was thinking again when he cried

> Better like I thy satyr, dearest Dyer,
> Who burnt his lips to kiss fair-shining fire?"

[*Page 3*]

This poeticule once used "sylvan" too, as a noun; and not so long ago. (Aren't we philological and commentatory?) But you are truly one, as I said.

Do not the heathen furiously rage,* in the Transcript, over that simple Stevenson affair?* I must copy and enclose for Mrs. Fields* the pretty inscription Bliss Carman* sent me for the fountain. And after that, I shall have time only to say how much I enjoyed being with you yesterday, and how much I am

Affectionately yours,
L. I. G.

Dec. 13th 9 p.m.

Notes

1895: This date is supported by Guiney's reference to Bliss Carman's inscription for the Stevenson fountain in San Francisco. See notes below.

Dr. Parsons: Thomas William Parsons (1819-1892), American dentist and poet. He translated portions of Dante's *Divine Comedy*, including just the first 2/3 of *Purgatorio*.

Guiney quotes -- apparently from memory -- his "In Remembrance," which appeared in *The Century Illustrated Monthly* 28 (August 1884) pp. 507-8.

There the lines read:

> A little while a sylvan thou shalt dwell
> In silent chambers of the woodland fell,
> But no long time; already to thy sense ....

Dante... Milton: The lines from Dante Alighieri (c. 1265-1321) appear in *Purgatorio* Canto 32, 100. Henry Wadsworth Longfellow's translation is:

> "Short while shalt thou be here a forester,
> And thou shalt be with me for evermore
> A citizen of that Rome where Christ is Roman."

British poet John Milton (1608-1674) uses "sylvan" as an adjective in *Paradise Lost* Book 4, line 138. Perhaps Guiney refers to this passage.

Sidney: British poet, Sir Philip Sidney (1554-1586). Guiney quotes -- apparently by memory -- from "Certaine Sonets 9," where stanza 5 reads:

> Like to the silly Sylvan,
> Burn'd by the light he best liked,
> When with a fire he first met.

In *Sonnets and Poetical Translations* Sidney's sonnet XVIII, "A Satyr once did run away for dread," is paired with Sir Edward Dyer's sonnet, ”Prometheus, when first from heaven high."

Sidney's final couplet is:

> Better like I thy Satyr, dearest DYER!
> Who burnt his lips to kiss fair shining fire.

Dyer's sonnet tells the story of a satyr kissing fire upon seeing it for the first time.

heathen furiously rage: See the Bible, Psalms 2. This psalm is especially well known because it appears in part 2 of George Frideric Handel's (1685-1759) *Messiah*.

Stevenson affair: Guiney refers to Scottish author, Robert Louis Stevenson (1850- 3 December 1894). In 1895, Guiney's friend, Alice Brown (1857-1948), published *Robert Louis Stevenson: A Study*, with "prelude and postlude" by Guiney.

At the time of this writing, no editions of the Boston *Evening Transcript* from December 1895 are available on-line. It has not yet been discovered to which Stevenson affair she refers, but a likely possibility is the raising of funds for a Stevenson memorial in San Francisco (see notes below).

Bliss Carman ... fountain: Canadian poet, William Bliss Carman (1861-1929). During 1895, Guiney undertook a project of raising money in support of a drinking fountain honoring Robert Louis Stevenson in San Francisco. Bliss Carman composed a poem in honor of Stevenson for the occasion of its unveiling. In a letter to Bruce Porter of December 1895, Guiney wrote: "Wasn't Bliss Carman's Inscription very nice? Can't we have it graven for every eye? Say so, and we will, even on a Salvation Army principle: by doing without lemon on our oysters for awhile" (*Letters of Louise Imogen Guiney*, p. 86). In that letter and in others of later date, she laments the difficulty of raising money to complete the memorial. See especially to Rev. W. H. van Allen of 9 September 1896.

Carman's poem, "The Word of the Water: For the Unveiling of the Stevenson Fountain in San Francisco," was collected in *By the Aurelian Wall and Other Elegies* (1898).

The Robert Louis Stevenson Memorial in San Francisco at one time included a drinking fountain, but not Carman's poem. Indeed, the poem seems rather long for that purpose; perhaps Guiney was thinking only of a special printing.

The manuscript of this letter is held by the Huntington Library, San Marino, CA, in the James T. Fields collection Box 25: mss FI 1577.

Sarah Orne Jewett to Mary Rice Jewett

Tuesday --

[*December 1895*]*
[*Begin letterhead*]
*South Berwick, Maine**
[*End letterhead*]

A nice Sister hastening off to her breakfast! and then to Miss Cameron’s whom I had to put off yesterday, and then down town at eleven and then to the Studio* and then to the French luncheon at Mrs.[Crafts's *?*]. But a quiet afternoon ensues for the* proofs of Thérèse’s

Scribner paper* which have just arrived. I have got a letter^ from her^ which I haven't had time to read yet as I am scuttling that letter on my way to breakfast. The Dunhams, Helen & Etta* came to luncheon yesterday and it came on such a tremendous snowstorm from one to half-past two that we were afraid to have them start off. And

[*Page 3*]

they were afraid too as one of them was blocked up three hours by the way. So they stayed! and we had a delightful evening with them. I have just got your note & the Upham Cheque.* I should speak of the back money again{.} I don't believe they ever would speak of it, do you? I [shall *corrected*] endorse it to you so that you can just take

[*Page 4*]

it for part of The first of February dues ----

I feel now as if my Wall St.* panic was a thing of the remote past! I had a note from Cora* yesterday asking me to luncheon one day this week and I will try to go -- perhaps Thursday. Yesterday I had a good session at 4 Park St. Aren't you glad that the cold snap is over, it seems to me that this last one was worse than any -- and we have had cold enough this winter.

[*In the margin*]

Sarah

Notes

December 1895: This composition date remains uncertain. That Jewett is working on a paper by Madame Blanc suggests that the letter was written in 1894-1896, when several of Blanc's essays appeared in American publications with Jewett's help. Jewett was traveling in the winter of 1896. It seems reasonable to suspect that she was working on "Family Life in America" (published in March 1896) at the end of 1895, before her trip to the Caribbean. That she also had dealings with T. F. Upham in 1895 lends some support to this speculation See notes below.

Maine: Though Jewett uses her home letterhead, it seems clear she was writing home from Boston.

Miss Cameron's: In a 7 November 1894 letter, Jewett refers to a Miss Cameron who appears to be a Boston dress-maker. However, in October 1902, a Miss Cameron who is adept at needlework was visiting the United States with her cousin, Lady Henry Somerset (1851-1921), attending meetings of the Women's Christian Temperance Union.

the Studio: Jewett almost certainly refers to the studio of Sarah Wyman Whitman.

Mrs. [Crafts's ?: The transcription is uncertain, and this person as yet is unknown.

the: Below this word on this page is the circled number, 40, in pencil, by another hand.

Thérèse's Scribner paper: No "Scribner paper" by Madame Thérèse Blanc has been discovered. However, in November of 1895, Jewett assisted her with the publication of "Family Life in America," which appeared in *The Forum* (March 1896, pp. 1-20). See Key to Correspondents

The Dunhams, Helen & Etta: Helen Dunham was the daughter of James Dunham of New York, one of four sisters, including Etta. She married Theodore Holmes Spicer (1860-1935) of London, England, in 1910. She was a friend of the American painter, John Singer Sargent, who made portraits of Helen (1892) and of Etta (1895). She also was a friend of Isabella Stewart Gardner; Key to Correspondents.

Upham Cheque: This presumably refers to the Jewett sisters' communications with the Duluth Securities Company. See above on July 2: T. F. Upham to Mary Rice Jewett.

The first of February dues: What dues these may be is not known.

Wall St.: Wall Street in New York City was the home of the New York Stock Exchange. Jewett seems to suggest that there has been trouble with her investments, or perhaps she refers to the sisters' dealings with Duluth Securities.

Cora: Cora Clark Rice. Key to Correspondents.

4 Park St.: Location in Boston of the offices of Jewett's published, Houghton Mifflin Company on the first floor, and those of the *Atlantic Monthly* on the second.

The manuscript of this letter is held by the Houghton Library of Harvard University in Jewett, Sarah Orne, 1849-1909. Mary Rice Jewett 1847-1930, recipient, 40 letters; 1877-1892 & n.d. Sarah Orne Jewett Correspondence, 1861-1930. MS Am 1743 (255).

Sarah Orne Jewett to Mary Rice Jewett

Sunday

[*December 1895*]*

Dear O. P.

I must now stop writing, with much love. We have come to like Miss Dunham so much. I wish you and Tab and Caddy* all knew her. I dont know that she is so much more gifted than other girls but she has got the use of her self in such a nice way, and gets so much out of her life, going ahead and doing things in such a spirited way. She is a new proof to me that you can make your life a clear little shining brook with purpose and direction, or you can let it drag back and make your piece of country all spoiled and swampy. Please excuse a meditating sister for dwelling on her thoughts, as she will now conclude from

Yours
Seddie

Notes

1895: This letter seems to follow another that mentions Helen Dunham, believed to be from December 1895. See the notes for that letter.

Tab and Caddy: Caddy is Caroline Jewett Eastman as Caddy. The identity of Tab is uncertain. A close Jewett cousin was Abba / Tabby / Abby Gilman Fiske. Key to Correspondents.

This text is from transcriptions from mixed repositories in the Maine Women Writer's Collection, University of New England, Letters from Sarah Orne Jewett, 1875-1890, Undated Letters, Folder 75, Burton Trafton Jewett Research Collection. Notes by Terry Heller, Coe College.

Sarah Orne Jewett to Caroline Jewett Eastman

Tuesday afternoon
in the train
[*December 17, 1895*]*

Dear Carrie

I wrote you a polite note yesterday to say that I was just beginning my short campaign in New York but I folded it up until I could get an envelope and then I forgot all about it. I don't think very well of the hotel because after sending down to the desk to say that I was in and [*deleted word*] tell any one who came they "thought I was out" and

[*Page 2*]

So I waited in all the nice morning & Mr. Barnes came for me to go and see the Paul Jones papers in vain after I had made an appointment with him.* So that shortened my time but I did see the papers this morning -- portraits & log-book and letters all with great satisfaction. Alice and Lilian and I had a great spree. We went to luncheon yesterday with Tom Tryon Lilian's cousin* & a friend of younger

[*Page 3*]

days, at Heuret's (the French restaurant[ )].* And then to the Grolier Club to see some engravings. And then I had to go home in case of Mr. Barnes. Fan Stone came to dinner and we all four went to the opera Aïda which was delightful with the great singers (de Reszkes & Nordica & Brema) at their best* -- and such splendors of dress I never saw in the boxes which go all around the [first *written over* sr?]

[*Page 4*]

gallery in this beautiful opera house. It made you think of Rome before it fell !!! I decided that it was worth going on to New York to see the opera cloaks go by! We were proper late home and had sandwiches to stay us. & talked it over before we went to bed at 12 or later. This morning I had my Paul Jones affair. The books were in Mr. Barnes house not at Harper's

[*Page 5*]

and [it *written over something*] was a superb house uptown full of lovely things & a nice library -- Mrs. Barnes a granddaughter of old Commodore Bainbridge of Barbary pirates fame.* We made friends and I enjoyed seeing the things very much. Then I had time to go to see Suzy Travers and she came down town with me in the hansom

[*Page 6*]

-- & we stopped to see Mrs. Cabot's Mrs. Trimble* and then I went back and threw my things together and took the three o'clock train. It was a great expedition. I never saw New York when I liked it so much. It was crisp nice weather both days & not too cold as it generally is when I have been there.

I must get my things ready

[*Page 7*]

to put on the yacht now* and tie up the rest of my Christmas bundles but I hope to get home Friday ~~afternoon or~~ at six. -- I dont know that you can make this out but if you can please send it to Mary in your next letter.

Ever so much love to Theodore & Beach.* I wish you had all been along -- With much love

Sarah

[*Page 8*]

I thought I saw Mrs. Cheney at the opera but I wasn't quite certain.*

[*Bottom of Page 8*]

Mrs. E. C. Eastman
South Berwick
Maine

Notes

December 17, 1895: As the notes below indicate, this letter almost certainly was composed between December 16 and 20 of 1895, after the opening of the Met's *Aïda* and preceding the Friday before Christmas. The exact date is inferred from the Thursday 19 December letter that follows below.

Mr. Barnes ... the Paul Jones papers: Wikipedia says: "John Sanford Barnes (May 12, 1836 – November 22, 1911) was a United States Navy officer and businessman and naval historian." His collection of papers related to John Paul Jones is now held by the New York Historical Society. "In 1863 he married Susan Bainbridge Hayes, granddaughter of Commodore William Bainbridge and great-grandniece of Admiral John Barry."

Alice and Lilian ...Tom Tryon Lilian's cousin: Alice probably is Mary Alice Longfellow, whom Jewett usually referred to by first name. Alice Longfellow and Fanny Stone (see below) were very close friends. See Key to Correspondents for more on all of these people. Tom Tryon, Lilian's cousin, is Thomas Tryon (1859-1920), an American architect practicing in New York and Boston.

Heuret's: While the spelling cannot be certain, it seems likely to be incorrect, for despite this apparently being *the* French restaurant in New York City in 1895, no reference to it has been located on-line, including in the New York *Times* archive.

the Grolier Club ... engravings: The Grolier Club in New York City was founded in 1884 by a group of bibliophiles to promote book art. Jewett almost certainly saw an exhibition of "engraved portraits of French authors to the close of the eighteenth century," which appeared at the Grolier Club 5-28 December 1895.

Fan Stone: Frances Coolidge Stone (1851-1931) of Newburyport, MA, was the daughter of Massachusetts politician Eben Francis Stone (1822-1895), who served in Congress in 1881-1887. Among her closest friends was Alice Longfellow. Key to Correspondents.

Aïda … Brema): Giuseppe Verdi (1813-1901), the Italian operatic composer, was commissioned by the khedive of Egypt to compose *Aïda* (first performance in Cairo in 1871) for the celebration of the opening of the Suez Canal. The New York Metropolitan Opera gave eleven performances, beginning December 16, 1895. Among the performers were:

Aïda.....Lillian Nordica
Radamès.....Jean de Reszke
Amneris.....Marie Brema
Ramfis.....Edouard de Reszke

Commodore Bainbridge: See note above on John Sanford Barnes. Wikipedia says: "William Bainbridge (May 7, 1774 - July 27, 1833) was a Commodore in the United States Navy."

Suzy Travers ... Mrs. Cabot's Mrs. Trimble: For Travers and Susan Burley Cabot, Key to Correspondents. Mrs. Trimble has not not yet identified, but Fields's acquaintance included Merritt Trimble (1824-1903), a New York banker, and his wife, Mary Sutton Underhill (1826-1908).

the yacht: Jewett was preparing for a yacht cruise to begin in the new year. She and Fields, along with Thomas and Lilian Aldrich were to be guests of Henry L. Pierce on his steam yacht, *The Hermione*, for a tour of Caribbean islands.

Theodore & Beach: Theodore is Theodore Jewett Eastman, Carrie's son; Key to Correspondents. The identity of Beach is unknown.

Mrs. Cheney: A candidate for a Mrs. Cheney mutually known to Jewett and her sister and perhaps to be noted at a Met performance is Ednah Dow Littlehale Cheney (1824-1904) "a writer, reformer, and philanthropist, born on Beacon Hill, Boston to Sargent Smith Littlehale and Ednah Parker (Dow).... After her husband's death she took an interest in social concerns such as the Freedman's Aid Society (secretary of the committee on aid for colored regiments and of the teachers' committee, 1863), Massachusetts Woman Suffrage Association (vice president), New England Women's Club (vice president) and the New England Hospital for Women and Children (secretary, 1862). She lectured at the Concord School of Philosophy on the history of art. She was an active member of the Margaret Fuller conversation class."

The manuscript of this letter is held by Historic

New England in Letters from Sarah Orne Jewett to Caroline Augusta Jewett Eastman, Jewett Family Papers: MS014.01.01.04 Box 1,4 Letter 1.

Sarah Orne Jewett to Carrie Jewett Eastman

Thursday
[*19 December 1895*]*

Dear Carrie

I got my things ready to go to the yacht yesterday so they aren't all over every thing any more, but Christmas presents still are and I am going to try hard to get* them out of the way today and tomorrow. I think that I may not appear until Saturday now -- I have somewhat of a cold of New York origin !! which is not

[*Page 2*]

enough to stop my wheels but does certainly slow them. and* the presents look at me until I am tired of seeing them. (Here's Miss Bolger!* to try on and be 'tended to.') I went up to the other dress maker to try my two fine waists and I wish you could see them while they are so fresh and pretty -- I suppose they may return from their voyage quite out of

[*Page 3*]

bloom. one is yellow (corn colour) with a little black [beeds *so written*] and satin ribbon & the other is white with red ribands. -- I should deem it a privilege to show them to a sister while they are new. Now I must get down town some way to buy a good Manilla hat* like [T.B. *?*]* but I dont know what kind of a bow on it ----

I was obliged by your letter and hope

[*Page 4*]

to see you soon. I shall try to get home tomorrow night but I dont know that I can{.} I'll send a telegram or let you know some way if I am not coming. With love to Stubby & I am so glad there has been good skating & love to Becca*

Yours affectionately
Sarah

Sister Sarah* never sent me any peanut candy & I was promised it first !!

Notes

1895: This date has been added in another hand. Almost certainly it is correct, as this letter refers to preparing for Jewett's January 1896 Caribbean cruise.

to get: It is not clear whether Jewett meant to underline this whole phrase or elongated crossing her T in the next line or both.

and: One of two instances when Jewett seem deliberately not to capitalize the first word of a sentence in this letter.

Miss Bolger: It seems clear that Miss Bolger is making clothing for Jewett, but she has not been further identified.

Manilla hat ... T. B.: A Manilla / Manila hat would be made from Philippine hemp twine and probably would have a broad brim. If the transcription of "T.B." is correct, then it may be that Thomas Bailey Aldrich had acquired and recommended such a hat for this cruise.

Becca: Rebecca Young. Key to Correspondents.

Sister Sarah: Probably Jewett refers to herself, but it is not clear whom she may be teasing. Main candidates would be Caroline herself, or her son Theodore, or perhaps sister Mary Rice Jewett.

The manuscript of this letter is held by Historic New England in Letters from Sarah Orne Jewett to Caroline Augusta Jewett Eastman, Jewett Family Papers: MS014.01.01.04.

Sarah Orne Jewett to Mary Rice Jewett

[*Christmas time*
December 1895]*

Dear Mary

I had such a nice time looking over the presents, but after being poor in skiddys* I am now very rich! not to speak of splendid. Just as I finished looking, who should come in but Hattie Denny* on her way home from the hospital with a fine reek of iodoform* and if you will believe it they had brought in some patients from the accident* ward to the nurses lecture and the room being extra hot and two patients being much wounded she said that she got so faint that she could hardly sit in her place, which had not happened to her in many years. I think she felt rather unsteady while she was here, but I offered remedies which were entirely refused and she made a nice long call and departed. She was so funny and apologetic about it! but I suppose it was very hot and they must have an extra reek of iodoform and things to have lasted her all the way here. I thought we should never get done laughing -- we were looking at my French calendar and Hattie told a tale about a text somewhere in England that Augusta* waked up to every morning for weeks right in front of her, “If the

righteous shall hardly be saved where shall the sinner & the ungodly appear{"}* --- She told it so funny! You can imagine how we all laughed, and I got such a turn of hiccups that we laughed the more. What a nice little picture of Um* and doesn't he look like a most brown person of great discretion? Dear Aunty* sent me some lovely roses and this letter which pleased a sister dreadfully and the roses were a great surprise to those who came gadding home from Mr. Paine's* where she sat* long at a noble feast. I forgot about this silk, and must bother you again; it is a smaller piece of dark green silk only a yard or so that I got in Venice* you know, and I think it is in the drawer over that one. Do thank Annie Barker* for the pretty piece of woodwork which we both thought very pretty -- until I can thank her myself and Mrs. Goodwin* for her vase and her note. I felt better yesterday and found myself sitting up sometimes about the room. Sally Norton* was here again and S.W., but I was so pleased because I managed to get a little bit done on Thereses paper* which I have been worrying about. I think that I can sign the mortgage paper* when I am at Mrs. Cabots.* She is always having great business, and it would be an interest Mary. When I thought Carrie* was coming up that week I wrote a note to Madam Howard* about a kind of bonnet she wanted so she would have it all ready to try on. And then when we were first sick I sent a note to say sister C was delayed about coming. I just tell you Carrie in case you should come up or want to write about it, though I think it is best to come up if you can a bonnet would be so much more your own! No more at present from

Sister

Notes

December 1895: A handwritten note on this transcription reads:189-? That Jewett seems to be working on a translation published in the spring of 1896 makes it probable that the composition date of this letter is 1895.

skiddys: What Jewett means by a "skiddy" is unknown. Clearly she is using the word as a noun, which rules out the currently used adjective meaning slippery. The OED gives only one noun definition, referring to a European bird, the water rail. She may mean a small skid, but no common definitions of skid seem to apply to this Christmas present item of which Jewett seems to have received several.

Hattie Denny: Mary Harriet Denny. See Augusta Maria Denny Tyler in Key to Correspondents.

iodoform: Wikipedia says that this volatile disinfectant has "a penetrating and distinctive odor ... sometimes referred to as the smell of hospitals, where the compound is still commonly used."

accident: The original transcription reads "accidnet."

Augusta: Augusta Maria Denny Tyler. Key to Correspondents

"If the righteous shall hardly be saved ...": See the Bible, 1 Peter 4:18.

Um: The identity of "Um" is not known. Perhaps he was a pet?

Dear Aunty: Usually, Auntie/Aunty is Lucretia Morse Fisk Perry. Key to Correspondents.

Mr. Paine's: This probably is John Knowles Paine (1839-1906), an American composer who became a founder of the music department at Harvard University, where he served as organist and choir master. He frequently entertained summer guests of Celia Thaxter on Appledore, Isles of the Shoals.

sat: The original transcription reads "sal."

got in Venice: Jewett first visited Venice in 1882, and returned on each of her subsequent European trips: 1892, 1898, 1900.

Annie Barker: Annie Barker was a South Berwick neighbor about whom rather little is known.

Mrs. Goodwin: This probably is Sophia Elizabeth Hayes Goodwin Key to Correspondents.

Sally Norton: Sarah Norton. Key to Correspondents.

Thereses paper: Jewett aided Marie Thérèse de Solms Blanc with the translation and publication of several pieces in American magazines in 1894-1896.

the mortgage paper: See T. F. Upham to Mary Rice Jewett of 2 July 1895. The Jewetts exchanged several letters about difficulties of dealing with this company during the latter half of 1895.

Mrs. Cabots: Susan Burley Cabot. Key to Correspondents.

Madam Howard: In the 1890s, Mme. Howard operated a millinery shop at 6 Beacon Street off Charles Street, Boston. Images of some her more elaborate creations may be found at Pinterest.

This text is from transcriptions from mixed repositories in the Maine Women Writer's Collection, University of New England, Letters

from Sarah Orne Jewett, 1875-1890, Folder 73, Burton Trafton Jewett Research Collection.

Lucretia Fiske Perry to Sarah Orne Jewett and Mary Rice Jewett

Exeter Dec. [*unrecognized text*]
[*25 December 1895*]*

My dear daughters

I hope this Christmas [day *?*] has brought happiness to you all -- It is much that you are together, that nothing distressing or fatal has happened and the year has dealt gently with you. Yesterday was a more lonely day to me than I have had since my children left me, and I was very low in my mind though busy, but doing what I had always had Fanny's* help in. Last year we [with *?*] John and Sarah* dined at the Gilmans and had a pleasant time -- Now all were scattered, and dear Pa [that *?*] deaf from a cold, that he could have almost no conversation. When your beautiful gifts came in, I was as near ["breaking *?*] [*unrecognized word*]" as I have not been in a long long time. If they

[*Page 2*]

[they *repeated*] had come from anyone else I should have been overwhelmed with a weight of [obligation *?*], but I know your generous gifts were prompted by a sincere affection that does not measure or weigh --

We cannot begin to thank you. Everything was more than beautiful. I shall always think of you girls when we use the beautiful carriage [robe *?*]. Pa took it into his [room *?*] with pride, as an extra [*unrecognized word*] [or *?*] a [wrapping night *?*], it being soft and light. I think dear Mary you must have thought it the year of our golden wedding. If we ever come to that, I shall bring out your gift, which is more beautiful than any thing of the kind I ever had. So was the dear little brush, dear Sarah. I love those dainty little charming things. The delightful book was

[*Page 3*]

made very valuable to me by the authors lines. When one has reached my age and without most of the friends of youth, kind words are precious when you know they are real. I shall not speak of Carrie's gifts here for I am going to write to her. I was surprised, both Pa and I, by presents from Mrs [Lowe *?*],* the embroidered pincushion, worked by a woman of ninety three!

I wished I had ~~intended~~ ^remembered^ to send her some flowers, but it is so difficult for me to get things done to suit me, that I am about to give up trying. All my servants are going away tomorrow after the morning work is done, for the day. Elis. has cooked up enough for us to eat, and I have planned to spend

[*Page 4*]

the day in writing up my letters. I shall be glad to part with them for a day, so that we can enjoy the silence. Fanny sent us a Christmas letter. Christmas was beginning to appear in the shops. [St Nicholas *?*] who goes round beforehand to distribute rewards and punishments to the children called at the house. [Herman *?*]* was expecting him all day, but was a little frightened when he came and [he *?*] ran to hide in the bed room, but was persuaded to come out in his fathers arms. Was it not strange John* did not tell how to address him? [So far *?*] he has not mentioned the missionaries. He has visited Kioto and Roke where missions are. It may appear later. He gets the Newsletter and Record, so that he is informed of all general news. Now my dears, I will close with wishing you every good gift and blessing for the new year -- and with speechless gratitude (with Pa and [me *?*])

Your loving Aunt L M P.*

[*Up the left margin and across the top margin of page 1*]

I am glad you had a good time in Portland. You certainly made the Aunts happy dear Mary.

I do not see how Aunt Long* will get on without Mary. Fanny went home with little Joe.

"Everybody" disapproves of Fanny except that [*ten unrecognized words*]*

Notes

1895: The Houghton Library apparently reads Perry's date as 1895. While that is possible, I cannot read the date confidently. That Carrie Eastman's husband is not mentioned suggests the letter is from after his March 1892 death. Mrs. Perry died in 1896.

Fanny's: Fanny may be Frances Perry Dudley (1861-1953), daughter of Dr. William and Abigail Gilman Perry. Key to Correspondents. She married Albertus True Dudley (1866-1955) in 1890.

John and Sarah ... Gilmans: Sarah Chandler and John Taylor Perry. Key to Correspondents.

The Gilmans were a large family, maternal relatives of the Jewetts by way of grandmother Abigail Gilman. The family was centered in Brunswick, ME. It is not certain to which Gilmans Perry refers.

Mrs. Lowe: This person has not yet been identified.

Elis.: The cook has not yet been further identified.

Herman: Possibly a grandson of John and Sarah Perry.

missionaries: The sentences about the missionaries have been marked in pencil: two parallel vertical lines in the left margin and one heavy vertical line in the right.

P.: Perry may have written the L in her signature over a P.

Aunt Long: Mary Long. Key to Correspondents.

words: This part of the final sentence may be readable in the original; the copy I have is of poor quality.

The manuscript of this letter is held by the Houghton Library of Harvard University, Cambridge, MA. Sarah Orne Jewett Correspondence, bMS Am 1743 Box 4, Item 178. I. Letters to Sarah Orne Jewett.

Caroline Augusta Jewett Eastman to Sarah Orne Jewett

[*Probably in another hand*. Mrs Eastman]

Friday noon.
[*27 December 1895*] *

Dear Sarah,

It seems as if it had already been a great while since you went away, and I haven't written you -- for I have been very busy, or my time taken, and have realized I had a great many presents when it has come to writing letters [*possibly a comma here*] for them. Yesterday afternoon -- people came

[2 *circled probably in another hand*]

[*Page 2*]

here, one after another, so was kept from going myself to return thanks along shore, that I tried to do this morning, and have already got several off my mind -- I am glad to tell you of Mary Woods* still gaining fast, and really looking better than she has for

[*Page 3*]

some time, if I can only now keep her from getting cold. I do [*mark like a period*] think we had one of the very nicest [christmases *does not appear capitalized*] we ever had -- don't you. I didn't go down to the [vestry *?*] in the evening, as I stayed with Mary Woods, to let Maryann,* go home -- and I didn't grudge it either!

[*Page 4*]

Becca and Lizzie* with deep feelings have told me of [Nell* & others *?*] being so touched by [your thought *?*] of the book -- and what [you *?*] wrote in it. But one of the best things of my day was taking the pinks round after John* came from the station, and poor Emma Pike* was too much her actual joy at having any flowers. She said the

[*Page 5*]

day before she was going down (being miserable) and she kept thinking, "what wouldn't she give to see a flower{.}" Think of that Sarah. I am so glad Mrs. Fields* liked the little candle stick. Theodore will be delighted I know when he hears it, and Sarah what a dear dear story the Transcript-one is -- I don't wonder the First [parrish so *spelled*]

[2 *circled, probably in another hand*]

[*Page 6*]

minister had words about it in Portland. Theodore had a very dear note from Mrs Upham* about the [*unrecognized word or name*] -- I am so glad you thought of them -- for I didn't at all -- and they evidently liked it very much -- Oh -- but I had such a nice long call from [Maria *?*] Lord yesterday, who was her nicest -- neither too high or too low, and

[*Page 7*]

her great pleasure at your giving her money, she couldn't seem to get over it, Poor Maria, and wanted your address.

It seemed such a big thing to her, your giving it to her.

Polly* is at present making long cooing noises that he may put into words by and by! I wish you could hear him -- as if he was talking

[*Page 8*]

to himself. Jinny* is so [curus *?*], going to (North Berwick) Plattsburg, and making her worth little like Grace* -- sometimes.

I am so glad you had another good Christmas when you got to Boston, for I'm sure you deserve one. Miss Raynes* school floor is being fixed today I 'spose. I'll send this little letter I had today from Liddy* -- Poor sister Liddy --it isn't like her to want to shirk even [making *?*] a sick [*unrecognized word*]

[*Cross-written from the left margin of page 5*]

for her mother. I must get her up here, & straighten her out. I do hope this bright day has helped your cold -- as it has mine.

with much love from
your affectionate
Carrie

Notes

27 December 1895: While this date must be speculative, there is one piece of substantial supporting evidence. Eastman mentions a "dear story" in the Boston *Evening Transcript*. Assuming she refers to a story by Jewett, this almost certainly would be "An Empty Purse," which appeared in the newspaper on Saturday 21 December 1895. Eastman says that Christmas has passed; therefore, this letter almost certainly was composed on the Friday after Christmas in 1895. At this time, Jewett was not at home, as she was with Annie Fields, preparing to depart for their 1896 cruise of the Caribbean.

Mary Woods: Mary Woods has not yet been identified. Residing in nearby Rollinsford, NH at this time was Mary L. Woods (1865-1937).

Maryann: The identity of Maryann is not yet known.

Becca and Lizzie: Rebecca Young. Key to Correspondents.

Lizzie probably is Elizabeth Cutts Parks (1831-1918), mentioned in *The Placenames of South Berwick*, pp. 72, 82, a near Jewett neighbor.

Nell: The identity of Nell is not yet known.

John: John Tucker. Key to Correspondents.

Emma Pike: This may be Emeline Pike (1859-1901). See Find a Grave.

Mrs. Upham: The identity of Mrs. Upham is not yet known.

Maria Lord: The Lord family is so extensive that identifying any individual with certainty usually is quite difficult. "A. Maria Lord" is listed as a pupil of the Berwick Academy with the class of 1851.

Polly: Almost certainly a pet parrot.

Jinny: The identity of Jinny is not yet known. She may be a Jewett family employee.

Grace: The identity of Grace is not yet known. She may be a Jewett family employee.

Miss Raynes: Olive Raynes, who for more than 50 years taught elementary students at her private school in South Berwick. All of the Jewett sisters attended the Raynes school.

Liddy: This may be Elizabeth (Liddy) Jervis Gilman. Key to Correspondents.

The manuscript of this letter is held by the Houghton Library of Harvard University: Sarah Orne Jewett Correspondence Series: I. Letters to Sarah Orne Jewett MS Am 1743, 56, Eastman, Caroline Augusta (Jewett) 1855-1897. 2 letters; [1892 & n.d.], 1892. This transcription is from a photocopy held by the Maine Women Writer's Collection, University of New England, Letters from Sarah Orne Jewett, 1875-1890, Box 4, Folder 159, Burton Trafton Jewett Research Collection.

Helen Williams Gilman to Mary Rice Jewett

Portland. Dec. 27th
[1*895*]*

Dear Mary:

Lest I forget it, I must begin my letter by doing, as I promised Susan and Lissie* that I w'd, write you this thanks for your kind remembrance of them at Xmas. I feel today like a cat in a strange garret for the whole house seems so vacant without the dear, dear Aunt Mary* who went home under Minnie's care yesterday afternoon, and you must not wonder if my head is not yet quite clear after the Xmas cares and the consequent clutter of waste paper &c., and the writing of letters and notes! Certain propriety ones have already been dispatched and a long call from Margie*

[*Page 2*]

is my excuse for not having this ready for the eleven o'ck collection. I have wanted to write you daily since you left to tell you of the dear Aunty and of our missing you every moment, for indeed you were to us both everything that was kind and lovely, and if I had your ready gift of pen I should say heaps of words to express my appreciation and thanks for all you were to me in your little visit. An angel of mercy is a slight approach to what I

feel you were to me, and if you were not over-taxed I should be thankful. Books and newspapers were not to Aunt M. what your bright conversation was but they [occupied *?*] her, and the amount of Xmas letters and packages

[*Page 3*]

seemed to entertain her in [every interim *?*] She was pleased with the box of Cologne and wished me to give you and S.* her thanks. I wish I c'd adequately thank you and S. for those splendid books for they are just what I desired to own, and I gladly tell you that the copy of Arnold's letters* I told you I had in the house were for a coming birthday if you should already own it, and with our good Robt. C.* I pray my partial lie may be forgiven! After a little rest and the readjustment of things I shall have much pleasure in reading both gifts and [realizing *corrected*] how kind you and S. were to give them to me. Your two letters were gladly received for it is a great happiness to

[*Page 4*]

know of the life and whereabouts of you three sisters, and that the New Year may be full of blessings for you all is my sincere wish. It was a joy to me to hear that Harry and May* were able to dine with their families, and with May so much better I trust all will go well with Aunt M.L., for certainly it will be farthest from her wish to have Mary expose or exert herself in any way, and I have courage to believe that matters will soon [go smoothly *?*] at both houses, and I do think that dear M.O.L's quietness of spirit is most wonderful. What a dear loving soul she is! She w'd not believe her visit had been more than two or three weeks, and but for Helen's visit and paying her bills at the close of this month and seeing her "Angelic May" I think she would gladly have staid longer, and I wish she could have. Other notes must go off by this mail and I have forgotten any propriety{ -- } please excuse me and with a "happy New Year{"} to you all over and over your loving

Aunt Helen

[*Up the left margin of page 1*]

M.E.B. and H.N.F.* went for the day to Boston on Thursday which speaks well for M.E.B.

Notes

1895: This letter almost certainly was composed no earlier than 1895, the year Matthew Arnold's letters were published, and no later than 1896, the last Christmas in the life of Caroline Jewett Eastman, youngest of the three Jewett sisters, who died in April 1897.

I have arbitrarily placed it in 1895.

Susan and Lissie: Probably these were household employees, two Irish women who are listed as members of the household in the 1880 census: Susan McLaughlin, then aged 29, and Elisabeth A. Deehan, then aged 28..

Aunt Mary: Mary Olivia Gilman Long. Key to Correspondents. Later in the letter, she is named by her initials.

Minnie may be Mary G. Gilman, daughter of Alice Dunlap Gilman.

Margie: This person has not yet been identified.

S.: Sarah Orne Jewett.

Arnold's letters: Probably George W. E. Russell (editor), *Letters of Matthew Arnold*, *1849-88*, 2 vols. (1895).

Robt C: Robert Collyer. Key to Correspondents.

Harry and May: Harry may be Gilman's grandson, Henry A Nichols (1869–1935), who married in 1905.

The "angelic" May is often mentioned in family letters, and it appears that she resided with Gilman at the time of this letter, but her identity remains elusive. A likely candidate is Mary Long Gilman (1860-1917), step-daughter of Mary E. Gray Bell. Another possible candidate would be Helen Gilman Nichols (1872-1907), granddaughter of Helen Augusta Williams Gilman.

M.E.B. and H.N.F: Probably Mary Elizabeth Gray Bell, and her daughter or son-in-law, Helen or Harold North Fowler.

The manuscript of this letter is held by the Houghton Library of Harvard University, Cambridge, MA. bMS Am 1743 Box 8, Item 354, IV. Letters to Mary Rice Jewett.

Harriet Elizabeth Prescott Spofford to Sarah Orne Jewett

Deer Island
near
Newburyport, Mass.
Dec. 28 [*1895*]*

My dear and lovely. It was most good and sweet of you to send ~~you~~ ^ me ^ my dear book! And the stories are those I particularly love, -- the exquisite "War Debt," and dear little "French Mary", and the "Hilton's Holiday" in which I can hear your voice at every word. Do you know I don't remember anywhere anything stronger, finer, more [dramatic

?] than John Packer out in his boat, with the trees -- Ferris & his [toppers *?*] on

[*Page 2*]

shore. They are all just like you.

Katharine* was perfectly delighted to see you, & to bring me the box. She is one of your idolaters, -- oh not because you are the writer of immortal stories, -- she writes stories, (where the people [multiply *?*] so the canvas won't hold them & has to be turned to the wall,) -- but because you are as beautiful as a Spanish [princess *?*] (ought to be) & dress the part to her satisfaction, -- so I gather.

I hope you are going to have

[*Page 3*]

the loveliest of winters with your glorious cruise.* Remember, when you are in the many-colored Caribbean waters, and under the tropic stars, the affection of your faithful

H.P.S

Notes

1895: For Christmas, Jewett has sent Spofford a copy of her new story collection, *The Life of Nancy* (1895), which contains: "A War Debt," "Little French Mary," and "The Hilton's Holiday." John Packer is the protagonist of "A Neighbor's Landmark."

Katharine: This person has not yet been identified.

cruise: During the first months of 1896, Jewett, along with Annie Fields and other friends, enjoyed and endured a Caribbean cruise in grueling weather at sea.

The manuscript of this letter is held by the Houghton Library of Harvard University, Cambridge, MA. Sarah Orne Jewett Correspondence, bMS Am 1743 Box 4, Item 202. I. Letters to Sarah Orne Jewett.

Sarah Orne Jewett to Mary Rice Jewett
Fragment

Saturday morning
[*1895*]

Dear Mary

I must go out early so that you wont get much of a letter -- but I send old Mrs. Cunningham's (the lace woman)* which will please you and this nice long letter from Dorothy Ward.* She cant be twenty two yet at least I think not: -- but dear me! I have only to remember how old and busy I felt by that time and had been writing for the Atlantic two years or toward three -- and for other things since I was seventeen or eighteen! and when you think what "opportunities" Dorothy has had she doesn't seem so young after all.

Sarah

Notes

1895: This date is based only upon Jewett's guess that Dorothy Ward is not yet 22 years old. The hyphens at the end indicate this is an incomplete transcription.

Mrs. Cunningham's (the lace woman): This person has not been identified.

Dorothy Ward: See in Key to Correspondents, Mrs. Humphry Ward, for her daughter Dorothy Ward (1874-1964).

This text is from transcriptions from mixed repositories in the Maine Women Writer's Collection, University of New England, Letters from Sarah Orne Jewett, 1875-1890, Folder 74, Burton Trafton Jewett Research Collection.